

TX

153

.E5





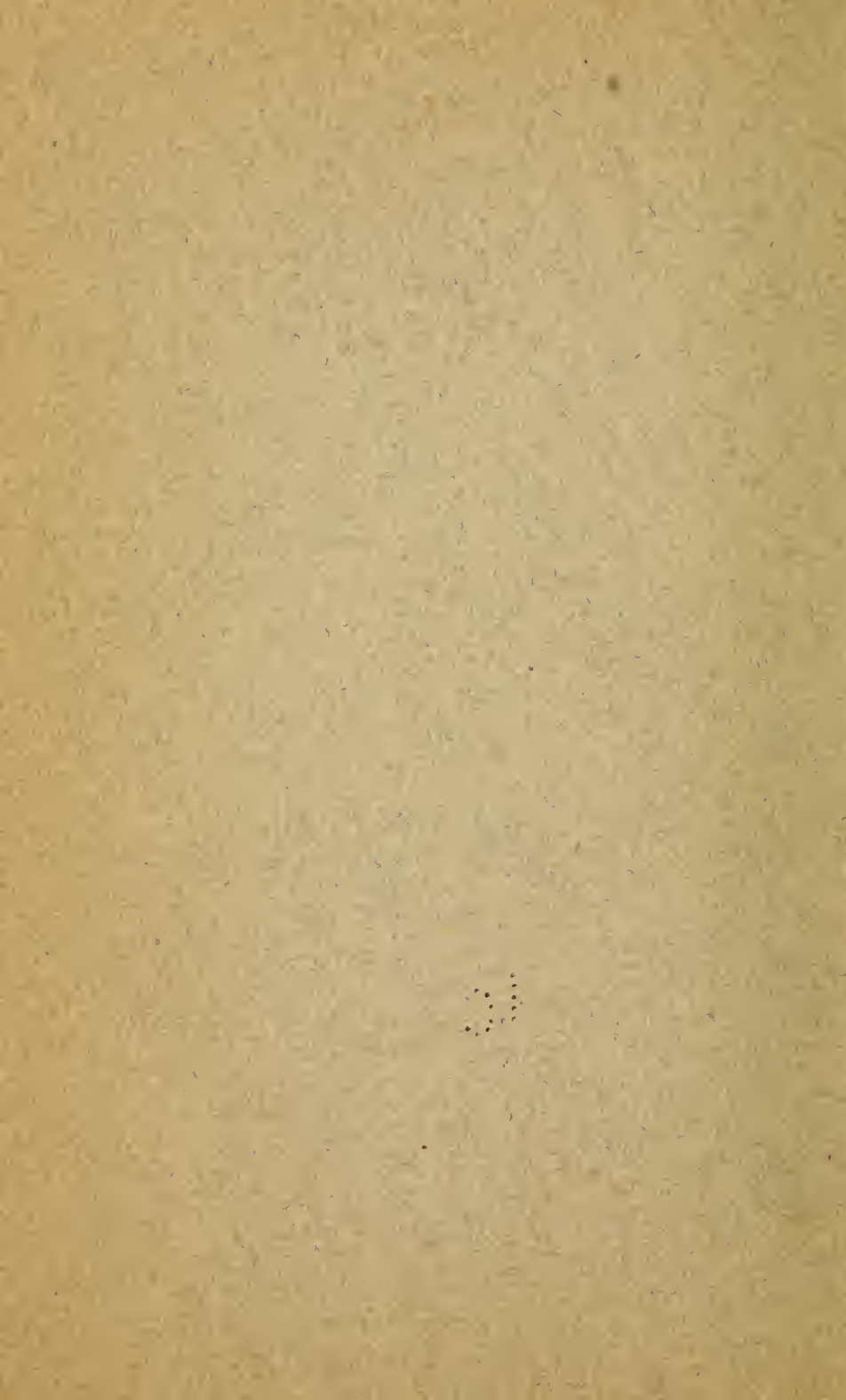
Household Wisdom

A Collection of the

Very Best and Most Helpful Hints
and Practical Suggestions
for the Home

Price - - - 50 Cents

Compiled by
The Eluto Publishing Co.
Washington, D. C.



TX153
E5

Introduction

“HOUSEHOLD WISDOM”

A Little Book With Big Results

The following practical suggestions will enable one to solve hundreds of perplexing problems that confront the would-be happy home maker, and gain information gleaned from reliable sources that will be of incalculable value in the care and management of the home.

Copyrighted 1916
by
CHARLES G. ELUTO

AUG 25 1916

©CL.A 437381

\$ 0.50

Household Wisdom.

ACID ON CLOTHES.

If you drop acid on your clothes, the immediate application of ammonia will prevent damage.

FOR AILING PLANTS.

As an antidote for fungous diseases as well as scalcicide, lime mixed with a little sulphur and stirred into the soil about plants is excellent. This should be used frequently and when the soil is rather dry.

ANTS ARE KILLED BY GAS.

A dime's worth of moth balls, a nickel's worth of sugar and a glass of water with a bottle—that's the "secret" of the asphyxiating "gas" of a farmer in his war on the armies of Argentine ants.

A two-gallon bucketful of the insects, so deadly to vegetation, was the toll of the "gas"

in the trenches on the truck farm of G. L. Ricks, near the race track, bordering on Algiers, Louisiana.

Ricks estimated that there were something like forty billion ants in the bucket he exhibited.

Ricks says he soaks the moth balls ten minutes in sugared water, and places the balls in a bottle with both ends broken so the air circulates freely.

A sweet, sickening odor comes from the bottle. Ricks puts a bottle to the bottom of the vines or trees and the ants are attracted by the sugar. The odor of the moth balls and sugar makes the "gas."

Ricks says the "gas" makes the insects insane and then they kill each other.

MEANS OF ERADICATING ANTS.

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

Excellent success has been had in destroying ants with the use of bisulphid of carbon applied in their nests. The method consists in pouring an ounce or two of the bisulphid into each of

a number of holes made in the nest with a stick, promptly closing the holes with the foot. The bisulphid penetrates through the underground tunnels and kills the ants in enormous numbers, and, if applied with sufficient liberality, will exterminate the whole colony.

Whenever the nests of any ants can not be located, there is no other resource than the temporary expedient of destroying the ants wherever they occur in the house. The best means of effecting this end is to attract them to small bits of sponge moistened with sweetened water and placed in the situations where they are most numerous. These sponges may be collected several times daily and the ants swarming into them destroyed by immersion in hot water. It is reported also that a syrup made by dissolving borax and sugar in boiling water will effect the destruction of the ants readily and in numbers. The removal of the attracting substances, wherever practicable, should always be the first step. Ants are attracted to houses by food materials

or scattered sugar left about by children, and the nuisance of their presence can be largely eliminated by keeping all food products in a pantry or storeroom and limiting the amount of such products as strictly as possible to daily needs.

That it is possible to drive ants away from household supplies by the use of repellent substances, particularly camphor, has been asserted. The use of most repellent substances in connection with food supplies would be impracticable. Gum camphor has recently been the subject of a careful test by Dr. William T. Watson, of Baltimore, who found that while having slight repellent properties, it does not bring any really practical benefit.

ASBESTOS PADS FOR THE TABLE.

Get enough asbestos paper to cover the table with double thickness. From a couple of old sheets cut two pieces the size of the table. Baste the asbestos paper between them and quilt it on the sewing machine, using a long stitch. This

is necessary, as the paper tears and pulls apart easily. Put this pad under the silence cloth and there will be no marks from hot dishes.

No. 1.—AUTUMN LEAVES TO PRESERVE.

To preserve autumn leaves and their natural colors, make a solution of paraffin in benzine, apply, and allow it to dry on the leaves.

No. 2.—AUTUMN LEAVES TO PRESERVE.

Dissolve two ounces of white shellac in a gallon of alcohol and dip the leaves in the solution, then hang them up to drain and dry. This latter is only advisable when preserving a lot of them for decorative purposes.

REMOVING AXLE GREASE.

Spread one teaspoonful of butter or lard evenly on the spot, and let it remain there until the axle grease has become thoroughly soft and greasy. Then wash out in soft, soapy water and the stain will come out, and there will be no mark left. This will be found valuable for children's delicate frocks.

BAKEPANS, SAUCEPANS, KETTLES, ETC., NEED A GOOD EXTRA BATH.

Bakepans, saucepans, kettles, etc., need a good extra bath occasionally, even though the daily care is of the best.

So fill your boiler with water, dissolve a pound of washing soda in it, put in the utensils, and let them merrily simmer away until they look bright and new again.

REFRESHING BATHBAG.

Cut a circular piece twelve inches across from loosely woven crash or Turkish toweling, hem or bind it neatly and run in drawing tapes long enough to let the bag lie flat. When ready to use, put a cake of soap, a handful of salt, or any bath mixture, as scap and almond meal or oatmeal, soap and powdered orris root, or wheat bran and salt, for a tender skin, inside the bag, draw it up and use it as a sponge. Empty it, rinse and dry after you use it. The bag saves the annoying loss of soap and prevents

any clogging of drainpipes. For a perfumed bag, make the bag of cheesecloth or swiss muslin, fill it with fresh rose petals or stemless violets, with shreds of dry orange peel scattered through, and let it soak in the bath water from ten to fifteen minutes.

TO BATHE A KITTEN.

To bathe a kitten, wash it with tar soap; rinse this out of her fur with a decoction of green pennaroyal leaves, or pennaroyal oil and warm water. This should rid her of fleas.

TO CLEANSE ENAMELED OR PORCELAIN BATHTUBS.

To cleanse enameled or porcelain bathtubs use kerosene, which is better for the surface of the enamel than gritty powders or sand soap.

GETTING RID OF BEDBUGS,

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

That the bedbug may be destroyed in houses by fumigating with hydrocyanic-acid gas has

been fully demonstrated during the last few years. The gas penetrates every crevice in the house or room where the bedbugs conceal themselves and has an immediate effectiveness which gives it an important recommendation, especially when the infestation is considerable or of long standing. The gas treatment for houses is described in full by Dr. L. O. Howard in Circular 46, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The old remedies, which follow, are effective enough, though at a greater cost of time and personal effort, yet will often be of service for slight infestation or where the employment of the more poisonous cyanide is objected to or is impracticable.

The bedbug, on account of its habits of concealment, is usually beyond the reach of powders, and the ordinary insect powders, such as pyrethrum, are of practically no avail against it. If iron or brass bedsteads are used, the eradication of the insect is comparatively easy. With large wooden bedsteads, furnishing many cracks

and crevices into which the bugs can force their flat, thin bodies, extermination becomes a matter of considerable difficulty. The most practicable way to effect this end is by very liberal application of benzine or kerosene or any other of the petroleum oils. These must be introduced into all crevices with small brushes or feathers or by injecting with small syringes. Corrosive sublimate is also of value, and oil of turpentine may be used in the same way. The liberal use of hot water, wherever it may be employed without danger to furniture, etc., is also an effectual method of destroying both eggs and active bugs. Various bedbug remedies and mixtures are for sale, most of them containing one or another of the ingredients mentioned, and these are frequently of value. The great desideratum, however, in a case of this kind, is a daily inspection of beds and bedding and of all crevices and locations about the premises where these vermin may have gone for concealment. A vigorous campaign should, in the course of a week or so at

the outside, result in the extermination of this very obnoxious and embarrassing pest.

MAKING BEDS.

To make up a bed so that it will be smooth, tuck the clothes in, one piece at a time, at the sides, and complete the work all but tucking the clothes in at the foot. Now draw the clothes down, one piece at a time, as taut as possible, and tuck them in at the foot. The bed will be far neater looking than would be otherwise possible. If the bed is of iron or brass, which does not permit of tucking in the coverlet, tuck in the other clothes as directed, placing the coverlet over all.

A new way to make beds is as follows: Sew two short loops on one end of each covering, these loops being the distance apart of the width of the bed and equally distant from the corners of the coverings. Then take a brass rod cut just as long as the bed is wide, and cover it with a thin padding of cotton and some durable

material. This rod is run through the loops of the bed coverings and tucked in at the foot of the bed.

When the bed is put to air, the bedclothes may be readily thrown back without becoming separated. This device is especially adapted to children's beds, or is good to use when there is illness in the home.

TO CLEAN BED SPRINGS.

Take an old dish mop and dip in kerosene oil, wring it out and use in each small space of the springs. It will save your hands many a scratch, remove all dust and at the same time prevent your springs from rusting.

YOUR BIRTHSTONE.

MONTH	STONE	MEANING
January	Garnet	Fidelity
February	Amethyst	Sincerity
March	Bloodstone	Courage
April	Diamond	Innocence
May	Emerald	Happiness

MONTH	STONE	MEANING
June	Agate	Health
July	Ruby	Love
August	Sardonyx	Conjugal bliss
September	Sapphire	Wisdom
October	Opal	Hope
November	Topaz	Friendship
December	Turquoise	Prosperity

TO BLEACH COTTON GOODS.

To take all of the color out of a faded colored cotton garment, or to bleach a yellowed white garment, boil it in cream of tartar water and it will come forth a beautiful white instead of being a dingy white or useless faded color.

TO REMOVE BLOOD STAINS.

Soak in salt and water for some hours, then wring out and rub in a fresh supply of salt and water. Next wash in the ordinary way, with soap and warm water, boil, rinse and dry in sunshine.

TO CLEAN WHITE BLOUSES.

Perspiration stains may be removed from white blouses without any trouble if they are soaked before washing in cold water, to which a little carbonate of soda has been added.

TO PREVENT ANY SHADE OF BLUE
FROM FADING.

To prevent any shade of blue from fading, soak two hours in a pail of water to which one ounce of sugar of lead has been added. Dry before washing and ironing.

CLEANING BOTTLES.

To clean bottles fill them with scraps of torn newspaper and a little soapsuds, shake vigorously till the paper is dissolved to a pulpy mass and rinse thoroughly. You will be surprised how the dirtiest bottle will become clear and shining.

REMOVING LABELS FROM BOTTLES.

Wet the face of the label with water and hold it for an instant over any convenient flame.

The steam formed penetrates the label at once and softens the paste.

THE BOTTOM CELLAR STEP PAINTED WHITE.

The bottom cellar step painted white often saves a tumble.

BRAN FOR CLEANING.

Few people seem to know the value of dry bran for cleaning purposes. You may keep a wool suit or coat in the best condition for a long time by simply rubbing down with dry bran. Rub the spots harder than the rest, then brush it all off, saving the cost of sending to a cleaner.

WHEN BRASS NEEDS CLEANING.

When brass needs cleaning do it in this way: Put an ounce of alum into a pint of boiling water. Cool it and use. It can be bottled for future use. It does not hurt the hands and it does not hurt the brass and it will remove the stains that are so troublesome on this metal.

TO CLEAN BRASS FLOWER POTS.

To clean brass flower pots or trays rub them with a piece of lemon; then pour boiling water over them, and finally polish with a soft, dry cloth.

TO CLEAN BRASS THAT IS VERY DISCOLORED.

To clean brass that is very discolored rub well with lemon; then clean with metal polish. This applies especially to gas brackets that are burned.

TO CLEAN BRASS LAMP BOWLS.

To clean brass lamp bowls, rub them with salt and vinegar (mixed in equal proportions) and then rub with a good silver polish.

TO CLEAN BRASS THAT HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO THE WEATHER.

To clean brass that has been exposed to the weather, make a paste of salt and common vinegar; rub the brass with the mixture and leave for ten minutes. Then clean in the usual way.

TO CLEAN BRASSES QUICKLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

To clean brasses quickly and economically, rub them well with vinegar and salt or oxalic acid and salt. Wash immediately after the rubbing and polish with tripoli and olive oil. Unless the acid is washed from the brass at once it will tarnish more quickly and be further harmed.

PRESERVING THE BRIDE'S BOUQUET.

The roses of the bride's bouquet are preserved by pressing them into beads and forming a necklace that she can keep to pass down in the future to her children and grandchildren as an heirloom.

TO CLEAN BRONZE.

Dip the bronze object into boiling water and rub with a flannel cloth dipped in a soapsuds made from yellow soap. Dry with a soft cloth, and then polish off with a chamois.

TO CLEAN BRONZE ORNAMENTS.

To clean bronze ornaments, first brush out the dust, then apply a very little sweet oil all over the article. Polish first with a soft duster, finally with a wash leather.

TO CLEAN BRONZE STATUARY.

To clean bronze statuary, or bronze ornaments in the fine lines where dust has collected, wash with weak soapsuds or aqua ammonia.

TO KEEP BROOMS IN PROPER SHAPE.

To keep brooms in proper shape, souse them about in the suds, after boiling the clothes on wash day, bending them into shape as you do this; then rinse, shake well and stand to dry upside down.

BROOMS TO LAST LONGER.

A new broom will last longer if the strands are tied together and put into a pail of boiling water and soaked for two hours. Dry thoroughly for two hours.

BROOMS, BRUSHES AND MOPS CAN BE HUNG UP.

Screw eyes placed in the tops of handles of brooms, brushes and mops, so they may be hung on hooks in a closet, will allow a neater arrangement of cleaning utensils.

BROWN LEATHER BAGS, TO POLISH.

Brown leather traveling bags or any other brown leather goods can be polished by rubbing them well with the inside of a banana skin and then polishing with a soft dry cloth.

TO CLEAN BRUSHES.

Clean all brushes carefully, by dipping the bristles in warm water to which has been added a few drops of ammonia. Remove any bits of hair or fluff from them, finish off by dabbing bristles in clear, cold water and hang up the brushes in the air to dry.

BRUSHING A ROOM.

When brushing a room, sweep toward the fire-

place, otherwise the draft from the chimney draws the dust in that direction.

CAMPFIRE REMNANTS.

Always be sure to destroy all remnants of the campfire and to burn rubbish of every sort. What will not burn can be buried or else neatly piled under leaves or a rock. At any rate, leave the woods and fields through which you travel in as nearly the same condition in which you found them as possible.

CANDLE SHADES MADE TO SUIT THE OCCASION.

You may easily make candle shades to suit the occasion. Cut out a circular foundation from white bristol board, then cover this with crepe paper. It will be smoother if stitched on the machine, rather than fastened with paste. Make a narrow ruching of crepe paper on the machine and sew at the top and bottom of the shade while flat; then fasten the ends of the shade together. For a bridal shower, cut four

hearts one inch in size at equal distances apart out of the bristol board, but not through the crepe paper. For a card party use spades, diamonds, etc., for the cut-out design. With the numerous shades of crepe paper you can use class or club colors and have an effective shade at a small cost and very little labor.

CANDLES TOO BIG FOR THE HOLDER.

If the candle is too big for the holder, plunge the end of it into hot water and it will accommodate itself to the socket speedily. If the candle is too small for the candlestick, apply a match to the end, and, while the grease or wax is dripping, place it in the socket. The melted grease or wax will harden and hold it firmly in place.

CARPET CLEANING.

For cleaning a carpet, try a mixture made by boiling half a pound of (shaved) soap in a quart of water until it is dissolved and then add to it a gallon of hot water and one ounce of salts of tartar.

Mix this cleanser thoroughly and scrub the carpet with it, using a stiff brush. It should lather freely and clean the carpet without making it very damp. Wipe each breadth (hard) with a cloth wrung out of cold water as you clean it. Where there is much green in the carpet, put a cup of vinegar in the cold water into which you dip your wiping cloth. This is an old and reliable method and this quantity of cleanser is sufficient to clean a large carpet.

TO BRIGHTEN SHABBY CARPET.

Cut an ounce of yellow soap into small squares and make into a lather with a pint of boiling water. Add to this a quart of water and one ounce of borax and bring to a boil. When quite cold add an ounce each of alcohol and ammonia and half an ounce of glycerin. Wipe over a small portion of carpet at a time with this mixture, rubbing vigorously with a clean flannel which should be turned as it gets soiled.

TO REMOVE GREASE SPOTS FROM CARPETS.

To remove grease spots from carpets, rub on each spot a mixture of Fuller's earth, oxgall and water; then rinse this out with clear water, and rub as dry as possible with a dry cloth.

WHEN GREASE OR OIL IS SPILLED ON THE CARPET.

When grease or oil is spilled on the carpet, spread fine meal over the spot; it will absorb the grease.

CARPET OR RUG, TO SWEEP.

Before sweeping the carpet or rug, scatter small bits of newspaper dampened in water, to which a spoonful of borax and one of ammonia have been added. This will not only greatly lessen the dust, but will brighten and disinfect your carpet.

TO CLEAN A CARPET SWEEPER.

A very coarse scrubbing brush will be found the best thing for removing the threads, hairs,

etc., which are so hard to get out of the brushes of a carpet sweeper.

CAYENNE PEPPER, ENEMY OF MICE.

Cayenne pepper is excellent to rid cupboards of mice. The floor should be gone over carefully and each hole stopped up with a rag dipped in water and then in cayenne pepper.

HOMEMADE CEMENT.

There are many good prepared cements on the market, but there are equally good homemade ones. The cement, however, is not everything. One must know how to go about mending. Most women know the edges to be joined must be clean, and so they often rub so hard as to remove the roughened surfaces. This lessens the chance of a successful repair, because the cement can not sink into the smooth edges as it would were they irregular and all in little crevices, as it were. Next, the edges must be thoroughly dry before the cement is applied. It is a good plan when there are several pieces to be jointed to

mend one at a time and let each get thoroughly dry and hardened before applying the next.

To mend, first heat the edges and then apply the cement to both. Bring together and hold until it begins to harden, pressing firmly. Then the article may be put away.

An excellent cement for mending glass and china ware is simple and inexpensive. Isinglass dissolved in its own weight of whisky, gin or alcohol applied as directed will hold and the joint be scarcely visible.

One of the finest and most delicate of cements made is a mixture of one ounce of isinglass and one-half ounce of gum arabic covered with a good alcohol. This should be put into a bottle, loosely corked and set into a kettle of hot water until thoroughly dissolved. This cement can be used for mending the finest woods, as a piano chipped, or to set pieces that may have broken loose from an inset table top or other piece of furniture. Jewelry is also sometimes repaired with this cement, and so is polished steel.

Another simple homemade cement calls for materials always on hand in the house. It is just the white of an egg mixed into a paste with flour. This is good for common earthenware.

If iron filings are added to the mixture a cement for mending broken parts of iron is the result.

A good cement which will hold labels to metal is made by dissolving one part of borax to five of gum shellac in one quart of boiling water. Boil until the whole is clear. Before applying wash the metal in hot water containing common washing soda and warm the cement before using it on the labels.

Those who have been unsuccessful in finding a cement that will fix paper to metal should try this formula.

CLEANING CHAMOIS SKINS.

To clean chamois skins soak them in a weak solution of washing soda, then in weak soap-suds for a few hours. Rinse thoroughly in water and dry.

CHIGGER AND A WEAPON TO COMBAT HIM.

The chigger is the "gooseberry bug" in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, and under other names he carries on his butcher trade in all the countries of Europe. He lives also in the West Indies, throughout Central and South America and in the orient.

There is one thing which the chigger will not endure. It is sulphur. Here is the hint for mankind. It is man's ally or weapon against the cruel and insidious mite of a chigger. Give him sulphur and he will perish. One need not bother about furnishing him with brimstone. Just hand him sulphur. If you will dust a little flower of sulphur into your shoes, you can go unafraid and unharmed among millions of these dreadful creatures. And remember also, that if after picnicking in the woods or fields you will take a wash after getting home, you may drown the chigger before he has had time to intrench.

TOUGHENING CHIMNEYS.

Wash your lamp chimneys in soapsuds as hot as you can bear your hands in; then stand them up and slowly pour boiling water over them. You will scarcely have to polish them at all, and the boiling water toughens the glass.

CHINA BRIC-A-BRAC, DUSTING.

Before wetting any species of china bric-a-brac carefully remove the dust.

CARE OF CLOCKS.

Get into the habit of winding your clocks regularly. Probably in the houses where a man comes once a week to wind the clocks at a certain time they go with much more regularity than in other houses. But anybody can get into the habit of winding a clock at a regular time every week. So, before you expect your clocks to keep good time, learn to wind them regularly.

CLOCKS, TO CLEAN.

Often clocks stop going just because they need cleansing, and the offices of a clock repairer are

not needed to clean them, either. A bit of absorbent cotton soaked in kerosene placed under the clock will usually effect a thorough cleaning. The cloth or cotton after a few days will be found black with dust and dirt, which the kerosene has freed and collected.

CLOCKS WITH LUMINOUS HANDS.

One of the clocks with luminous hands is a convenience, especially to an invalid or anybody else who is awake in the night a great deal. Another sort of clock that is good in the dark is one with a little electric bulb attached, which can be pushed on to show the time.

CLOCKS FOR TRAVELING.

The woman who travels about much will find a small traveling clock, in a substantial case, well worth while, for this sort of clock is especially made to stand the jolts and jars of traveling. There are little leather cases for watches, that make of the watches admirable traveling clocks.

and simplify the number of things the traveler must carry.

FOR A CLOSETLESS BEDROOM.

When one has a bedroom without a clothes closet a very satisfactory substitute may be made with two shelves the same size—about twelve inches wide and as long as desired. One should be placed just at the top of the baseboard, the other about fifty inches above it. A narrow board to hold the hooks should be fastened to the lower side of the upper shelf where it comes against the wall, also making the hooks more secure. Hooks made to hang from the ceiling can also be screwed to the under side of this shelf, utilizing all the space. It should be finished with two curtains, which meet in the center and slide on a rod both top and bottom. When the curtain must continue around the end of the shelves that part can be tacked fast, as there is no need to open it there. If desired, a third shelf may be placed about a foot above the upper one and finished with a short curtain.

This makes a good place to keep hats, etc., while the lower shelf makes a convenient place for shoes.

TO PRESERVE CLOTHESPINS AND CLOTHESLINES.

To preserve clothespins and clotheslines and keep them flexible and durable, boil them a few minutes and then dry them quickly. This should be done twice a month.

TO EXTERMINATE COCKROACHES.

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

Roaches often seem to display a knowledge of the presence of poisons in food, and, notwithstanding their practically omnivorous habits, a very little arsenic in baits seems to be readily detected by them.

One of the most effective simple means of ridding premises of roaches is dusting with commercial sodium fluorid, either pure or diluted one-half with some inert substance such as powdered gypsum or flour. With the use of some dust gun or blower the sodium fluorid can be

thoroughly dusted over the shelves, tables, floors, and the runways and hiding places of the roaches. The immediate effect is to cause these insects to come out of their retreats and rush about more or less blindly, showing evidence of discomfort, to be eventually followed in the course of a few hours by their death. These dead or paralyzed roaches can be swept up and burned, and complete extermination is effected within 24 hours.

COCKROACHES, TO TRAP.

A simple and practical method of trapping roaches in large numbers was devised by a correspondent in Brockton, Mass. He took several tin bread pans with nearly vertical sides about 3 inches in height, greased the bottoms and sides with a little rancid butter, and placed them where the roaches were numerous. Each pan in the morning contained hundreds of the pests unable to climb out because of the greased sides. The roaches were shaken out into hot water, and

the pans were again ready for use, without re-greasing.

COFFEE AND FRUIT STAINS.

Spread the stained surface over a bowl or tub. Pour boiling water through it from a height, so as to strike the stained part with force.

COFFEE STAINS ON CUPS AND SAUCERS.

You can remove coffee stains from cups and saucers if you rub hard with baking soda and a damp cloth.

TO MAKE A COLD BOX.

Where it is not possible to have a refrigerator, this box will be found to be a great convenience. Get a good strong box, without any cracks or crevices, the size you need, and pack tightly with layers of newspapers for four or five inches all around the sides and at the bottom, then fit asbestos paper tightly around this packing. Make the packing as tight as a drum, so that no air can get in.

Place cold food in large stone jars and pack

them side by side in the box. They should touch each other. Have good stoneware covers, and place a pail of ice water or very cold water in the box. Put several inches of layers of newspapers on top, then on top of all this place a very tight cover. Keep the box in the coolest place possible.

Ice cream will keep for hours when packed in ice and salt and placed in such a box. Any food which does not require to be stirred, but only frozen, may be put in and kept cool until needed. The same with all cold drinks which on a hot day get warm so quickly. The box will keep milk from souring, butter from melting and ice water from getting warm. To keep lettuce and all other green things deliciously fresh, first wet with cold water, shake off as much as possible, then seal in glass jars and place in the box.

Another good substitute for an ice box is made from a box three or four feet square, filled four or five inches deep with clean, coarse salt.

Keep the salt well dampened, and put the food, milk and butter in this homemade refrigerator.

Butter may be kept cool in this way: Put it on a dish which has been placed in a shallow vessel of cold water and cover with an inverted new earthenware crock or a flower pot. The pot should rest in the water. Place in a cool spot.

RESTORING COLORS TO COTTON.

Where colors have been faded by acids, ammonia will restore them.

FABRICS COLORED WITH ANILINE DYES THAT HAVE FADED.

Fabrics colored with aniline dyes that have faded may be restored by sponging with chloroform.

TO LENGTHEN THE LIFE OF A COMB.

To lengthen the life of a comb, wash it in soapy water before using it, and when it is dry rub it with a little olive oil,

COOKING UTENSILS, TO CLEAN.

Kettles which have been burned black, as they will be sometimes, are restored by pumice stone to their pristine smoothness and polish. A piece of pumice stone lasts a very long time, and no chain dishcloth can ever approach it. No one who ever tries it will be without it.

COPPER CAN EASILY BE CLEANED.

Copper can easily be cleaned by rubbing with a cut lemon dipped in table salt, then rinsing with clear water and polishing with a soft, dry cloth.

COPPER COOKING VESSELS, TO CLEAN.

Copper cooking vessels of all sorts, brass and-irons, candlesticks and trays are best cleaned with vinegar and salt.

CORKS IN THE HOUSE.

Every housekeeper needs a box of assorted corks, such as are supplied by housefurnishing

departments. It's a very orderly house that can supply a cork of required size without more or less prolonged search and preparation, unless there is such a box at hand. Another useful addition to the kitchen is the glass cover that is supplied with grooves which fit it to any size dish. This puts the makeshift sauce plate and saucer, with their inconvenient edges, back into their legitimate place.

CORKS THAT ARE TOO LARGE.

If you have a small bottle which no cork will fit, try boiling any cork which is handy five minutes, and when it is soft it can be molded to fit any bottle.

CORKS MAY BE MADE AIRTIGHT.

Corks may be made airtight and watertight by keeping them immersed in oil for five minutes.

CORKS A SUBSTITUTE FOR GLASS STOPPERS.

Corks steeped in vaseline are excellent sub-

stitutes for glass stoppers. Acids can not affect them and chemical fumes do not eat them.

CORKS FOR SCOURING KITCHEN KNIVES.

Cork stoppers do the work of scouring kitchen knives far better than a rag, and are cleaner to have around.

TO CLEAN CORRODED WATER PITCHERS.

By rubbing potato juice on the water pitcher which has become corroded from letting water stand in it the stains will immediately disappear.

COTTON FILLING THAT IS DAMP.

A young woman who was making some sofa cushions and comforts found that the cotton filling that she was using had become slightly damp. This made it difficult to thrust the needle through in tying the comfort, so she placed the cotton in the oven to dry and become slightly browned. As a result it became very light and fluffy and held its fluffiness. Treated this

way it holds its resilience, and does not mat and pack down.

WHEN MAKING COTTON FLANNEL BROOM BAGS.

When making cotton flannel broom bags, make them four or five inches longer than is really necessary. Then, as the bottom wears out, run a new seam across the bottom, making practically a new bag with a single sewing.

CRACKED WALLS.

When a plaster wall or ceiling is so badly cracked that it will not do to paint or even paper the surface, cover it with strong muslin or light canvas. Use a strong paste made of flour in the ordinary way with a little glue added to give it stronger holding qualities. Press out any air bubbles that may occur and make the surface quite smooth. Either water or oil colors, as well as paper, may be applied to this surface, and it will make a very smooth and a sure job.

USES OF CREPE PAPER.

A table center of green or pink crepe paper is dainty and pretty at night. It should be laid in a strip down the center, the edges ruffled by being drawn between the thumb and finger and puffed at intervals. Lamps or candles should be shaded with the same color as the centerpiece. Very effective lamp decorations are made by artificial flowers composed of crepe paper, as the texture of crepe paper lends itself admirably to the formation of petals and leaves. Tiger lilies and similar flowers which have stamens should have fine wire gummed over with thin slips of the paper inserted between the petals, in order to perfect the illusion. The stem of each flower should be tightly covered with green paper in order to avoid the appearance of fullness.

Flower pots are effectively brightened by having ruffled or pleated crepe paper pinned or tied round, with a band of ribbon to match or contrast.

A summer use for crepe paper is as a lining for a fire screen. It is quite as effective as silk.

CROCHETING HINT.

A bill file with its point protected with a cork is a useful little object to hold a spool of carpet warp for crocheting.

KEEP THE CRUETS CLEAN.

Everybody knows how difficult it is to clean cruets and decanters that become discolored and stained. This is a good way to clean them. Roll up in small pieces some soft brown or blotting paper; wet them and soap them well. Put them into the decanters about one-quarter full of warm water; shake them well for a few moments, then rinse with clear, cold water; wipe the outside with a nice dry cloth, put the decanters to drain, and when dry they will be almost as bright as new ones.

CUFF PROTECTOR.

Take paper napkins and fold each diagonally. Fold one of these napkins about either cuff, and

fasten them with cuff pins. They are soft and pliable and will stay in place beautifully.

CUSHION FOR TRAVELING.

Every woman who has spent long days on a train knows that there is a spot in her back that is never comfortable. If she is wise, she will take with her next time a little round pillow two feet long, and twenty inches in circumference. The ticking should be well filled with feathers, so that the cushion will be firm rather than squashy, and the cover be dark colored. It tucks easily under the arm in going from one train to another.

DECORATE CANDLES.

Plain white wax candles may be decorated prettily with various figures cut from colored prints. If these are heated at the fire on the wrong side they will stick nicely to the wax.

DINING ROOM FURNITURE.

In the dining room good, strong furniture is cheapest in the end, since the chairs and the

table must always expect to put up with a certain amount of wear and tear.

DISH MOPS CAN BE USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Handled dish mops bought for 5 cents may be used for purposes other than dish washing. Use one for dusting chair rounds, table legs and corners; another for cleaning the top of a hot kitchen stove, and a smaller size for washing lamp chimneys.

DISH WASHING SUGGESTIONS.

Here is a dish-washing suggestion. Take a tin can the size of a tomato can. Hammer down the rough edges where the can has been opened. Punch holes in the other end with a tenpenny nail. Use this as a "catch-all" for all the odd bits of soap which are always left when the bar is nearly used up. Keep this convenient on the sink shelf, and if the paper-scraping process of cleaning the dishes of food is observed the hot water poured through this will be found to be

just "sudsy" enough to wash the dishes. You will be amazed at the saving in soap.

TO WHITEN DOORSTEPS.

To whiten doorsteps, place two pounds of powdered glue in a saucepan with one and a half pints of water. Dissolve it over a slow fire; when melted add one pound of powdered whitening, stirring it in gradually. This should be applied to the steps with a stiff brush. If the mixture becomes too stiff, add more water. Only a very hard rain will remove this preparation, hence the saving of labor is considerable.

DRIPPING CANDLES.

Everybody who has watched candles in a draught knows what troublesome things dripping candles are.

If they stand on the dinner table they make pools of melted wax on the cloth, that later hardens. But unless it is very carefully removed, after it has become absolutely cold, it leaves a stain on the cloth for many days—perhaps forever.

If the burning candles stand on a wooden surface—on a shelf or table—the inconvenience of splotches of melted wax, hardening until fantastic shapes, is equally great.

There are little disks of glass, pierced in the center with a hole the size of the ordinary candle, made to catch this melting grease. They are perhaps two and a half inches or three inches across, and they are made with edges slanting slightly upward, so that they serve as saucers.

To adjust them, slip them over the candle, after it is firmly secured in the candlestick, or else thrust the lower end of the candle through them before putting it in the stick.

They come in several different designs—some with scalloped edges, some with a Roman key engraved as a border, some with a tiny star sprinkled over their surface. They cost from a dollar a dozen up and can be used on glass or silver candlesticks.

TO REVIVE DROOPING FERNS.

A few drops of castor oil will be found most

beneficial to drooping ferns. Drop the castor oil on the roots and soak the ferns in a pail of water all night. In a week a marked improvement will be noticed.

USES OF DRY SAND.

A box of fresh, dry sand is an excellent thing to have in a corner of the storeroom or pantry. If apples are carefully packed in the sand they will keep fresh and unshriveled for months.

DUSTING CAN BE MADE EASIER.

Dusting may be made easier by covering a child's broom with a dustcloth and using it to clean wainscotings, the lower parts of chairs and tables, or any place where one has to either stretch or stoop. A dish mop makes a splendid duster, and it can be washed. Brooms soaked in hot salt water will wear better. A good way to clean a carpet sweeper is to remove the brush and after taking off all the hairs and lint rub it well with a cloth wet in kerosene.

DYES MADE AT HOME.

There is a certain romance about old-fashioned methods of dyeing, and there is no form of handicraft more suited to summer camps and homes than that of the dyer. All that one needs is a set of enameled ware kettles of varying sizes, some smooth sticks to lift the stuff about in the dye, a pair of rubber gloves, a line and a fire. With an oil stove or a small laundry stove the work may be done as our grandmothers did it, out of doors.

HOME DYED FABRICS.

Home dyed fabrics are better than any others for summer use, both because they wear better and because the colors are softer, deeper and more natural. A web of cotton cloth costing a few cents a yard may be turned into cushions, rugs and table cloths of charming colors. A very fair imitation of a Navajo rug can be produced by dyeing and weaving cotton wicking. Braided or woven rugs may be made of cotton cloth torn into strips; and such rugs are washable and

light, and wear indefinitely. The cloth can be combined in patchwork, applique, or simply by making cushions of different colors on the two sides.

NATURAL DYES.

It is best to begin with dyestuffs prepared for use by the chemist, what are called "natural dyes," such as copperas for orange-yellow, indigo for blue, catechu for browns of yellow and red East Indian shades.

Catechu is the extract of a certain East Indian tree barks, and comes in a dry paste. Take a two-ounce piece, sew it in a small cheesecloth bag, soak it in a quart of cold water in an enameled ware bowl over night. In the morning add four gallons of boiling water and a quart of an ounce of copper sulphate. When the sulphate is dissolved, put in the stuff to be dyed and let it come to a boil in the enameled ware kettle. Take the kettle from the fire and let the stuff lie in it over night, then take them out and let them dry in the open air. Dissolve in

two gallons of warm water a piece of bichromate of potash about the size of a hazel nut, and dip the stuff into it, take it out and let it dry.

TREASURES FROM NATURE.

This is the kind of process involved in most home dye work. To do the work as our grandmothers did it is a little more complex, but on the other hand it is more fun; there is the feeling of getting treasures direct from the storehouses of nature. One may not be able to dye exactly to a shade to match anything, but the colors which result will go together.

GOLD GREEN.

One of the prettiest "Hedge-row dyes" is obtained from peach leaves, which gives a permanent straw-colored yellow. Soak two quarts of peach leaves in warm water with a lump of alum; boil all together with the material for about an hour—not too long or it may turn brownish. Peach leaves when green give a delicate Japanese gold-green.

GREEN.

Green: Peel the bark of black oak. Boil the bark as much as half an hour. Take the bark out of the kettle, and put in some alum; have plenty of water. Put in the yarn and boil it awhile—maybe half an hour. Wring it out and dip it in blue dye.

IRON BUFF.

Iron buff is obtained by dissolving half a pound of copperas in an enameled ware kettle containing two gallons of warm water. In another enameled ware kettle dissolve a pound package of soap powder in the same amount of water. Dip the stuff into copperas, drain, then dip into the soap-powder, and repeat this three times; dry, rinse, and dry again. This iron buff is one of the oldest forms of dye. If, after being dyed in this way, the stuff is dipped in a solution of tea leaves, the tannic acid in the leaves will turn it gray, and the gray and buff make a charming combination.

MISCELLANEOUS COLORS.

Use larkspur and indigo for blue; yellow daisies or "black-eyed Susans," burdock, common nettle root, or onion skins for yellow; the heath tribes for purple; and poke root for solferino. Black alder makes an indelible orange. Any of these yellows combined with blue, will, of course, give green of some shade or other. The secret lies in taking time enough to do the work well, having things clean, and rinsing and drying thoroughly.

PURPLE.

Purple: Use maple bark and copperas; boil your bark until it is a pretty good ooze, and put in just a little grain of copperas, then put in your wool.

WALNUT DYE.

Of all homemade dyes there is none so easy to secure or one that presents so many possibilities as walnut dye. To get this color all that has to be done is to boil walnut bark or the shell

of fresh walnuts in water until it is thoroughly saturated with the color. There are many possibilities in this coloring matter. If the nut is green when used the color will be a golden brown. By using the bark and leaves a greenish shade of brown can be obtained, and by using the bark alone a delightful brown is the result. Any of these colors lend themselves to interesting effects when used on natural-toned fabrics. For instance, an uncolored burlap can be made into an interesting color for a couch cover by boiling it in the desired concoction of walnut color. If this color is to be used in making woven rugs an interesting effect can be produced by dyeing some of the rags in one of the concoctions and others in the remainder and weaving the different colors together.

YELLOW.

Yellow: Get brown sedge and boil it with a little alum and "it makes the prettiest yaller that ever was." (This is the literal rule of the mountain woman.)

YELLOW BROWN.

Another interesting yellow brown is produced by boiling logwood chips in water.

One of the fastest of all colors used in home-made dyes is rust. And this is produced simply by letting bits of old iron remain exposed to the action of water and air. The old-fashioned method was to turn old tins that had become rusty to account by saving them to make rust color with. It makes a delightful yellow and with a little practice can be made to yield one of the most useful of dyes.

Fustic also gives a good yellow. To produce this the fabric should have been soaked in alum water and dried. The alum solution should consist of a half gallon of water to seven ounces of alum. The fustic comes in chips which can be bought from the druggist or chemist. They should be soaked in cold water first and then boiled for thirty minutes. The dye should be then drained from the chips and it is ready to pour into the dye bath.

All dyes should be thoroughly boiled into the fabrics and after the materials have taken up all the dye that is desired they should be gradually cooled and when almost dry they should be rinsed in cool water, carefully wrung out and allowed to dry again.

There are ever so many interesting dyes that can be learned from old housewives who remember the days when the household dye kettle was still in evidence. These colors differ in different localities. They are obtained from weeds and trees and some of them are of Indian origin. Like all vegetable colors, they are softer in quality and more lasting than the chemical dyes usually used nowadays. They are distinctive, too, and it is well worth while to spend a little time in reviving this rapidly disappearing use of the household dye kettle.

COMMERCIAL DYES.

Now that one dye can be bought which will answer alike for silk, cotton and woolen fabrics, success is well nigh assured if the directions on

the packet are strictly followed. These are usually explicit, and experienced dyers need no other; but the amateur is apt to strike snags despite directions. She may not think it necessary to clean the article to be dyed, but oil or grease of any kind kills dye, so that any garment known to be greasy at all should be soaked in a warm solution of ammonia and water for half an hour, then thoroughly rinsed in hot water before going into the dye pot. Cotton goods should be washed in hot soapsuds and given a thorough rinsing. To leave soap in will interfere with the dye.

DYEING COTTON OR MIXED GOODS.

When dyeing cotton or mixed goods, they should be allowed to become cold in the dye bath. Dyes set very slowly in these fabrics, so the cooling process is necessary to success. Woolens, on the contrary, absorb the dye quicker, and may be rinsed while hot. Closely woven woolen goods should be boiled a little longer than those loosely woven.

WOOLEN GOODS.

Woolen goods of any weave should never be allowed to boil fast. A gentle simmering will bring the best results. If boiled violently, the tiny hairs mat and cause shrinkage, besides making the material close and board-like.

LINEN.

The fiber of linen, being harder and tougher than that of wool, silk or mixed goods, requires longer and faster boiling. Linen should be allowed to boil until the desired shade is obtained. This will be longer than in the case of the other materials mentioned.

SILKS.

Silks are so often weighted with fillers that on dyeing them they will fall apart. It has been proved that sixteen ounces of silk can, with fillers, be made to weigh double that amount. Good silks, satins and ribbons will dye satisfactorily, but it is a waste of time to bother with cheap silks. It will be better to wash them

through and use for linings or trimmings when making over garments.

DYEING TWO DIFFERENT ARTICLES.

Two different articles may be dyed to match if they are the same color before being dyed. If otherwise, it is practically impossible to dye them to match, but they will dye black.

The home dyer should guard against over-dyeing. Use only the quantity given in the directions.

Never wring dyed articles too firmly, and always dry in the shade. The dyeing process goes on until the article is dry, consequently any portions exposed to the sun will dry quickly and the result will be a streaky garment.

DYEING YOUR OLD WHITE SLIPPERS.

Clean them free from soil or grease and thoroughly dry them. Take some oil paint of the color you want them (preferably the paint that comes in tubes) and mix it with gasoline. Saturate the canvas with this mixture; the gaso-

line evaporates, but the color remains. Of course this must be done out of doors, where there is no fire, and be sure, too, not to work in the sun's rays on hot days. In order to get the color the exact shade you want it, experiment with a small piece of cotton fabric before applying the dye to the shoes.

ECONOMY IN THE HOME.

From the Sunday Star, by Mary Lee.

Economy in the household lies in watching the small expenditures rather than the larger outlays. This the young housekeeper seldom realizes until she learns the lesson by experience. Because she hesitates before spending large sums she believes she is economical and that 5 cents here and a dime there mean little or nothing at all. They do, however, make quite a difference to the income or outgo, as she has spent wisely or not. As dollars will take care of themselves if the cents are looked after, so large purchases are almost sure to be wisely made if the small ones are well considered.

The temptation to spend these trifling sums is greatest when things are marked extremely cheap. Their small cost is apt to be considered instead of the actual necessity for buying. As an instance, I know a woman who had no idea of buying a soda until she saw a sign proclaiming two ice cream sodas for the price of one—10 cents—and consequently bought the two tickets. Another spent 69 cents for things she did not need, but because handkerchiefs could be had for 8 cents instead of $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents each, neckwear for 25 cents instead of 35 cents, and fancy pins were reduced to 20 cents from 35 cents, and then believed she had saved just so much money. It is a fact that trifling sums spent for needless things will in a week amount to a sum total that will furnish a wholesome meal for the family.

It may be said that the things bought cheaply can be used, but it is also true that they could be done without in many cases. Of course, if such things are needed and can be bought at a

bargain, needless to say it will be an economy to secure them.

A good plan to break one's self from the habit of spending nickels and dimes needlessly is to put the sum aside one is tempted to spend and watch it amount up. In this way one has a fund to draw upon when things really needed are to be got at a bargain and the money will never be missed. Also, there will probably be a sum worth while, so that one can lay in a stock of the needed article instead of purchasing one or two with the small available sum. There is an economy in buying a stock. For instance, two pairs of stockings will not last nearly one-third the time six pairs will wear, and the same with lingerie, household linens and footwear. The service is greatly prolonged by keeping up a number of these.

If the young housekeeper will try this plan of saving the pennies I am sure she will never break the habit. It will be such a pleasure to know there is a little nest egg that can be spent

without being missed. If there is nothing especially to be bought, the sum would furnish the cost of a little outing or the table for a luncheon party, providing little luxuries which otherwise might have seemed extravagant.

EFFICIENCY IN THE HOME.

From the Evening Star, by Mary Lee.

“A very good friend of mine came in to see me to-day,” said Mrs. Happy Homemaker, “and she was in a fine state of rage over a verbal duel she had with her latest domestic helper.

“This woman is one of the most efficient housekeepers I know, and ordinarily has good luck in getting and keeping her girls. But matrimony will invade the best regulated families, and changes must be made.

“A new maid came, and after two weeks’ residence, announced that she was leaving. At first she would not tell the reasons, but upon being pressed said that she could not work in a place where the lady came and looked in her ice box every day, and then she was so ashamed

of her garbage can—it was the emptiest on the street.

“My friend attempted to explain her system of household management, which included constant care and no waste, but the girl was firm in her conviction that no real American lady ever bothered herself with these sordid details of housekeeping, and she preferred a home with the genuine article.

“The idea of America, in the European peasant mind, is of a country literally flowing with milk and honey, whose prodigal people never count the cost and care not for waste.

“The girls who go back on vacations after an American residence of a few years in the homes of some of our careless women look with scorn on the thrift and vigilance which even the women of wealth exercise in running their homes in the old countries.

“ ‘They don’t do that way in America. You are never asked what you did with this or that

in America. The ladies don't care how much you throw away in America.'

"And the old girl coming back or the new one coming over is bitterly disappointed if by chance she finds herself in a home whose mistress regards homemaking and keeping as a real business and tries to perform her duties carefully and skillfully.

"It is curious and somewhat discouraging the reception our efforts toward efficiency receive; and I am afraid it will take years of patient endeavor before the reputation of the American housewife is established on that basis.

"The American man is noted the world over for his business efficiency, and is lauded and honored for it. But if the woman in the home plans her meals with regard to food values, she is thought 'fussy.' If she aims to use the by-products of her plant and so reduce expenses, she is thought 'stingy.' If she exercises constant and watchful care she is called 'hard to work for.'

"What are we going to do?"

Keep right on. We would-be home efficiency promoters might adopt as the device upon our flag an empty garbage pail.

EGGS, TO TELL WHEN THEY ARE FRESH.

Hold the egg between the eye and a bright light. A fresh egg shows a perfectly uniform rose colored tint, while if it is not fresh there will be numerous dark spots. In packed eggs there is a tendency for the white and yolk to slightly intermingle along the line of contact. Packed eggs also are liable to adhere to the shell on one side. If eggs have been in a nest for any length of time they are smooth and glossy and the appearance is entirely different from the dull, rough surface of fresh eggs.

ENAMELED WHITE FURNITURE, TO CLEAN.

To clean white enameled furniture, remove all dirty marks with a flannel dipped in methylated spirit. Then wash at once with tepid

water to which has been added a little fine oatmeal. Never use soap or soda.

ENAMELED KITCHEN WARE, TO KEEP CLEAN.

To keep enameled kitchen ware clean, you must put it in a large vessel of cold water with a tablespoonful of lye added, and bring the water to the boiling point. Afterward wash the ware in the usual way.

ENAMELED PRESERVING KETTLE THAT HAS BEEN BURNED.

To save an enameled ware preserving kettle that has become burned, put a handful of ashes and some water in it and let it stand a few hours. This removes the scorched part.

TO PREVENT FADING.

To prevent the fading of gingham, calico and lawns, dissolve 5 cents' worth of sugar of lead in a pailful of lukewarm water. Put the goods into it and let stand for three or four

hours. Wring out, dry and press in the usual way. This process also shrinks the goods.

FADING OF PINK, LAVENDER AND BLUE FABRICS.

It is said that if pink, lavender and blue fabrics are soaked for two hours in a pail of water to which one ounce of sugar of lead has been added, then dried before washing, the color will not fade. Green needs a little alum in the water. Dissolve about a teaspoonful of powdered alum in a gallon of soft tepid water. Wet the fabric well with the solution and then wash in warm water. Never use hot water, and do not use soap.

Oxgall will keep gray or brown from fading. When washing tan, brown, flax, buff or linen color, use hay water, which is made by pouring boiling water over a handful of hay. For purples and the brighter shades of green, put half a cupful of vinegar into the water. Rinsing must be quick and thorough where there is fear of a color fading; the quicker the laundering

the better. If there is a delay in drying colored clothes, lay them in clear water, to which a little salt has been added, and do not use very hot starch, as hot starch tends to take out color.

TO RESTORE FADED SILKS.

To restore faded silks to their natural color, immerse them in soapsuds to which a little pearl ash has been added.

TO TRANSFER FEATHERS.

First, soap well the inside of the new case with a cake of soap only just barely moistened. Then sew the case up, leaving an opening just large enough to allow the feathers to pass in easily. Then open a space in the old case exactly the same size and sew the two together. The feathers can then be passed from the old case to the new one without any mess whatever.

TO NOURISH A FERN.

Put a couple of raw oysters under the dirt, close to the roots of a fern, and the plant will grow like magic.

TO CLEAN COLORED FIBER RUGS.

To clean colored fiber rugs, use a solution of water borax and white soap, and then rinse with clear water. If there is blue in the rug, add 5 cents' worth of muriatic acid to the rinse water to restore the color.

TO CLEAN FINGER NAILS.

One of the best acids for cleaning the fingernails is lemon juice. A dessert spoonful of lemon juice in a cupful of warm soft water will loosen the cuticle of the nails and remove stains and discolorations.

THE FIREPLACE.

Anything that makes the fireside pleasanter is a real addition to the whole house, for the pleasanter sort of sociability can be made to center around the fireside, just as it centers around the tea table. In fact, if your fireplace is so arranged that nearby there is a shelf of books, a table with newspapers and writing materials, a tea table with a kettle that may be set singing

at the appointed hour and perhaps a bowl of blossoming bulbs or cut flowers in a vase, you are indeed fortunate—the possessor of much happiness.

A proper accessory for the fireplace is a toasting fork. One can be had in brass with wide tines. The fork can be hung on a peg at the side of the fireplace when not in use, and it makes a truly decorative adjunct.

A desirable fireside accessory is a chestnut roaster. This comes in brass and is in the form of a wide, shallow, rounded, perforated bowl on a long brass handle. The chestnuts in this are roasted over the flames or embers. A companion to this roaster might be a corn popper of a sort suitable to hang in the living room at the fireside.

There must be a serviceable little brush with which to keep the hearth clean, and a shovel for coal or ashes and a pair of tongs of a kind that do not pinch the fingers easily, but that do grasp

logs firmly and decidedly when you wish to have them.

A fire lighter is helpful for the fireplace. The Cape Cod lighters consist of a can of brass in which kerosene is poured and a lighter (a porous clay bulb on a handle of brass) which is thrust into the kerosene and soaked there. This is then placed under the wood in the fireplace, and no paper is needed, as the lighter burns for a good many minutes—long enough to light the wood.

FIREPROOF CLOTHING.

Light, fluffy garments of children, as well as the heaviest textures worn by adults, can be made nearly fireproof. Each time the under-clothing and dresses of children are washed add a little ammonium phosphate.

MUSLIN AND COTTON GOODS CAN BE RENDERED FIREPROOF.

Muslin and cotton goods can be rendered fireproof by putting an ounce of alum in the last rinsing water, or by putting it in the starch.

TO ERADICATE FLEAS.

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

Every house where a pet dog or cat is kept may become seriously infested with fleas if the proper conditions of moisture and freedom from disturbance exist. Infestation, however, is not likely to occur if the (bare) floors can be frequently and thoroughly swept. When an outbreak of fleas comes, however, the easiest remedy to apply is a free sprinkling of pyrethrum powder in the infested rooms. This failing, benzine may be tried, a thorough spraying of carpets and floors being undertaken, with the exercise of due precaution in seeing that no lights or fires are in the house at the time of the application, or for some hours afterwards. Finally, if the plague is not thus abated, all floor coverings must be removed and the floors washed with hot soapsuds. This is a useful precaution in any house which it is proposed to close for the summer, since even a thorough sweeping may leave behind some few flea eggs from which an

all-pervading swarm may develop before the house is reopened.

FLEAS, TO TRAP.

Mr. E. M. Ehrhorn, of San Francisco, gives the following remedy, which he states he has tested and which his mother used with effect in South America. Fill a glass three-fourths with water, on top of which pour about an inch of olive oil, then place a night float (a little wick inserted in a cardboard disk or in a cork dish) in the center of the oil. Place the tumbler in the center of a soup plate filled with strong soapsuds. The wick should be lighted at night on retiring, or may be used in any dark room. As the soup-plate-soapsuds trap is placed on the floor of the room it does not interfere with the sleeper, and the fleas which are on the floor are attracted to the light. For outbuildings, such as barns, etc., a large milk pan may be used, and instead of using olive oil and a glass, a stable lantern may be placed in the center of the pan, while instead of soapsuds

a scum of kerosene may be put on the water in the milk pan.

ENEMY OF FLIES.

A confectioner's shop was quite free of flies, though all the cakes and sweetmeats were uncovered. "That mignonette," said the shopkeeper, "is what keeps the flies away. The odor is so unpleasant to flies that they won't come near us." It is a good idea. One sprig of mignonette in your window will keep it free of flies.

SPOTS ON THE FLOOR.

Are grease spots on your kitchen floor? Water with any amount of scrubbing will not remove them; just try alcohol to remove these same spots, and you will be pleased with the results.

FLOOR POLISH, TO MAKE.

Polishing floors, especially the spaces the rugs do not cover, is the task that occupies most of the attention on "sweeping days," and a good floor

polish is appreciated. A very useful one is made by taking two ounces of white and yellow wax, an ounce of shaved white soap and a quart of boiling water.

Stir the soap and wax together in the saucepan over the fire and melt them, adding the boiling water while doing this. Mix by stirring and pour into a jar or bottle until wanted for use. Some people prefer turpentine in this mixture and add half a pint to it after taking it from the fire, but it is not necessary.

It should be applied with a woolen rag or a piece of flannel, and then rub the floor with another flannel and polish well until all stickiness is removed.

FLOWER SYMBOLS.

Anemone	-----	Frailty
Apple Blossom	-----	Preference
Buttercups	-----	Riches
Calla	-----	Magnificent Beauty
Candytuft	-----	Indifference

Cowslip	Youthful Beauty
Daffodil	Unrequited Love
Dandelion	Coquetry
Forget-me-not	True Love
Foxglove	Insincerity
Geranium	Deceit
Gentian	Virgin Pride
Goldenrod	Encouragement
Heliotrope	Devotion
Honeysuckle	Fidelity
Hyacinth	Sorrow
Lilac	Fastidiousness
Lily	Purity
Marigold	Contempt
Narcissus	Self Love
Pansy	Thoughts
Poppy	Oblivion
Rose, single	I love you
Rose, bride	Happy Love
Moss rosebud	Confession of love
Snowdrop	Friend in need
Sweet William	Gallantry

White Violet	-----	Modesty
Oak	-----	Patriot's crown
Bay	-----	Poet's crown
Myrtle	-----	Beauty's crown
Olive	-----	Token of peace
Ivy	-----	Wreath of Bacchus

TO MAKE FLY PAPERS.

To make fly papers, boil linseed oil with a little rosin till it forms a stringy paste when cold. Spread this on paper, using a large brush. This is inexpensive, and makes one of the best traps for flies.

FORCING GARDEN SEEDS.

Sow as usual, then cover with a single sheet of newspaper, held firm by stones at each corner. Wet this paper thoroughly three or four times a day while the sun is shining. Remove the paper after three days or sooner if any seed sprouts show.

FRAGRANT BEADS.

If you should happen to be standing near

some dainty girl and become aware of a delicate, spicy odor, look to see if she is wearing a necklace of brown "beads." The type of bead throwing off this fragrance is an unpolished affair; its dulled surface suggests some peculiar wood from Arabia; the uneven sizes of the beads suggest that they may be handwrought; the color is a charming brown, offset by two or three cut "gold" beads (such as are used on slippers and for dress adornment) between each. If you should ask the wearer where she procured this necklace, she would tell you "Out of the spice box," for the beads are either whole allspice or clove "balls," as the choice may be. The spices are soaked in water until tender enough to pierce with a needle; then they are strung on a strong linen thread, with the gold beads between, and then permitted to dry. They retain their fragrant odors indefinitely.

TO FROST A BATHROOM WINDOW.

To frost a bathroom window, dissolve Epsom salts in vinegar, making as strong a solution as

possible. Apply this to the inside of the window panes with a brush and when dry give it a coat of white varnish.

GUARD AGAINST FROST.

You can save some of your late autumn flowers from the frost. When frost is predicted, or when your own weather lore makes it apparent to you that frost is coming, sally into your garden at dusk to see what you can do.

If the night is crisp, clear and quiet frost is more likely to come than if it is moist and dull, though equally cold. Sometimes a spraying hose will ward off frost; but easier to arrange for are newspaper or canvas coverings fastened loosely about the flowers you want to save.

FUNNEL, HOMEMADE.

Often we need a small funnel and there is none available, so try this for such an emergency: Make a small hole in the end of an egg-shell and pour the liquid through this into the bottle.

FURNITURE POLISH, TO MAKE.

Take eight ounces of alcohol, eight ounces of raw linseed oil, half ounce of balsam fir, half ounce of acetic ether.

Dissolve the fir in the alcohol and add the other ingredients.

Use a soft flannel cloth and do not be too generous; a little of any good thing goes a long ways, and if the cloth is damp, not wet, it polishes better.

If the furniture is oiled (not varnished) rub it with a soft flannel cloth wrung out of kerosene oil and it will look bright and new.

POLISH FOR HIGHLY POLISHED SURFACES.

Highly polished surfaces and automobile bodies are much benefited by a polish made of boiled olive oil to which a few drops of vinegar have been added. Apply in moderate quantities and rub with a soft flannel cloth to a luster.

FOR WHITE SPOTS ON FURNITURE.

Hold a hot stove lid over the spots and they will soon disappear. They can also be removed by applying spirits of camphor or ammonia.

CARE OF FURS.

If your furs are worth wearing they are worth caring for. Here are some ways to care for furs so that their beauty is preserved and their life prolonged.

In spite of the fact that fur-bearing animals go abroad in wet weather and wear their coats after the beginning of warm weather, the two things most harmful to the furs we wear are moisture and the bright sun of spring.

So one thing to remember in the care of furs is not to get them wet, if possible. Chinchilla, especially, is ruined by dampness, so never wear that when it rains or snows. And be as careful as possible to keep other furs dry.

If you do get them wet, dry them in a cool, dry room, not before any intense heat.

The curl comes out of Persian lamb when it is wet; dry it very slowly to restore the curl.

TO CLEAN FURS.

To clean furs heat flour or bran in the oven and rub this into the fur. Leave it there an hour or two, then shake it out thoroughly.

WHEN TO PUT AWAY FURS.

Put your furs away as early as possible in the spring. There will be less danger of moths and they will miss the spring heat and sun if they are put away.

TO CLEAN GILT FRAMES.

Pour a few drops of ammonia on a piece of bread not over a day old, and rub the frame carefully with it. If the bread is very fresh it will clean without the ammonia, but the ammonia makes the effect more lasting.

TO RENOVATE GILT FRAMES.

Gilt frames which have become dusty and fly specked can be renovated by a careful dusting, followed by a washing with one ounce of soda, beaten up with the white of three eggs.

TO WASH GILT ORNAMENTS.

To clean gilt ornaments, wash them in a lather with a soft brush; rinse well and dry.

GILT WRITING.

When making Christmas booklets, cards, etc., instead of trying to trace gold letters with a brush, first draw the outline with a hard pencil, which leaves a delicate line. Now fill in the design with a weak solution of mucilage or dissolved gum arabic, and while still moist cover with gold dust. Do not shake the paper free of dust until the glue dries. Then brush off the dust. To get a pretty design, such as end pieces for narrow pictures, look through your magazines and select pretty scrolls, designs, miniature pictures, etc. Cut out a picture and place carbon paper between it and the cardboard to get the perfect outline in tracing the pattern, then decorate with gold or a watercolor.

GLASS, TO LOOK LIKE CRYSTAL.

If you wash common glasses with black tea leaves they will look like crystal.

GLASS, TO BRIGHTEN.

A few dops of ammonia in dish-water will brighten glass and silver.

TO CLEAN DINGY GLASS.

To clean dingy glass, wash it with warm water and sal soda. Dry and then brighten with salt water.

IF TWO GLASS DISHES OR TUMBLERS
STICK TOGETHER.

If two glass dishes or tumblers stick together very tightly, try filling the inner one with cold water and holding the outer one in warm water. They will separate at once.

TO PREVENT GLASS DISHES FROM
CRACKING.

To prevent a glass dish from cracking when pouring a hot mixture, place the dish on a hot cloth.

GLASS DISHES, NOT TO CRACK, NO. 2.

A silver spoon placed in the fine glass dish will keep it from breaking when you want to pour a hot dessert into it.

TO MAKE ANY KIND OF GLASSWARE
SPARKLE LIKE CUT GLASS.

To make any kind of glassware sparkle like cut glass, brush it well with lukewarm water and soapsuds. Wash off the soap and then dip the glass into hot water into which a little clothes bluing has been dissolved. Do not dry with a cloth, but allow to stand until dry.

IF A GLASS STOPPER IS HARD TO
REMOVE.

If a glass stopper is hard to remove, dip a cloth in boiling water, and while it is hot, wrap it around the neck of the bottle. It will expand the glass and free the stopper. A lighted match can be used to heat the bottle in the same manner.

TO CLEAN GLOVES.

Take a clean piece of flannel, a little milk and a cake of white soap. Pour a little of the milk into a saucer, dip the flannel into it, then rub it well onto the soap; then dip it into the milk again. Rub the gloves in one direction only and change the flannel as it gets dirty. This process will not only clean white kid gloves, but also any white kid article. It leaves the leather soft, pliable and glossy.

WHEN MENDING A GLOVE.

When mending a glove, if you put your finger into a thimble and then into the glove you will find mending quite an easy task; especially if the hole occurs at a seam, it is an easy matter to keep the thimble firmly under the hole. This plan prevents pricking the fingers, and a much neater darn will result.

CARE OF DELICATE GLOVES.

In the little matter of taking off gloves there is a right and a wrong way. The right way is

to turn the wrists back over the hand and pull them off wrong side out. If they are in the least dampened by the moisture from the hand, leave them a few moments to dry out, but before doing this gently stretch them lengthwise from the tip to the palm, to the original shape. When dry, scan them carefully for the faintest giving way of a thread. A stitch in time saves a whole finger end in the case of gloves. The stitch should be taken with fine glove thread the exact shade of the gloves, using a fine needle and sewing on the right side. Then, after dusting them lightly with powder if still damp, lay them neatly in a glove box, keeping light pairs folded in tissue paper and in receptacles long enough to permit their being laid at full length.

CARE OF GOLDFISH.

A globe of two or three goldfish with a bit of green seaweed makes a pretty centerpiece, and they are inexpensive and easily cared for. They should be placed at some distance from stove

and register and not in the rays of the sun. They endure extremes of cold rather than heat. In the bottom of the globe place some small stones, a bit of sand, a little charcoal and a spray of cabomba, a fine water plant. Feed them a little at a time. Once in two weeks remove them to a pail of muddy water for an hour, clean the globe, replace the shells, stones, etc., and refill with clear, cold water.

TO CLEAN GOLD CHAINS.

To clean gold chains, put them in a small glass bottle with warm soapsuds and a little prepared chalk. Shake until clean, then rinse in clean, warm water.

TO CLEAN GOLD OR SILVER JEWELRY.

One teaspoonful of ammonia to a quart of water will clean gold or silver jewelry.

TO WASH GREASY UTENSILS.

It is a good plan to wipe out all greasy utensils with a piece of soft paper before washing.

This simplifies the washing process. Destroy the paper immediately.

THE PRETTIEST KIND OF GREENERY FOR THE DINING ROOM TABLE.

The prettiest kind of greenery for the dining room table is made by planting the seeds of grape fruit and sowing them thickly. In a short time the tiny shoots appear and the leaves begin to unfold, and soon there is a mass of rich, glossy green, which is not affected by heat, as so many delicate ferns are. It is pretty, inexpensive and will outlast a dozen ordinary ferns.

GUEST CHAMBER OUTFIT.

Every guest chamber should have its bedside set of tiny pitcher and drinking glass, perfectly covered, and candlestick and match box.

HAIR BRUSHES, TO KEEP CLEAN.

The necessary frequent washing of hair brushes in order to keep them clean softens the bristles. To prevent this, dip them in a strong solution of alum water immediately after washing.

This alum water can be bottled and kept on hand for several occasions—it is clean, for the brushes are thoroughly washed before being dipped into it.

HANDY MOP.

From a piece of doubled outing cloth cut two circular pieces seven inches in diameter. In the middle of these cut a circle seven-eighths of an inch in diameter. Clip the edges, turn in and overcast. Sew to the outer edges a scant seven-inch ruffle, and a four-inch ruffle to this. Slip over the handle of an old broom which has been clipped up close, and you will have a mop superior to many you have used. It is easy to keep clean, as it may be easily removed and washed.

HANDY TRAY.

A cheese-box cover with part of a barrel hoop for a handle makes a very convenient tray for carrying several dishes of food to or from the cellar, from kitchen to dining room, etc., or for bringing vegetables from the cellar or garden.

A coat of enamel paint makes the tray easy to keep clean and fresh looking.

HINTS ON SAVING.

Much might be written in the way of house-keeping suggestion on the "extravagance of saving."

The typical New England housewife of olden time, being taught from girlhood to save, saved everything, and it is concerning this wasteful saving that a few hints are pertinent.

One housekeeper of this class saved every saucer that belonged to a broken cup, and it required eventually a week's absence and the courage of the entire family to throw away a pile of useless saucers of varying patterns and sizes that had stood on the shelves for years occupying valuable space and demanding the constant use of the duster.

Here are a few "don'ts" which the housewife will find worthy of adoption:

Don't save all your paper and string.

Don't save too many paper boxes.

Don't have the kitchen table drawer littered with paper bags; you might use one but you can't use a dozen.

Don't save too much dry bread. Keep a supply of bread crumbs, but the chances are that you will not use all your stale bread for bread pudding.

Don't save many bottles; the amount of space they occupy is not compensated for by the amount of money you receive if you sell them.

Don't save cracked or mutilated dishes.

Don't save dirty rags. It does not pay to wash them out.

Don't save opened bottles of liquids without going over them to see if they still are good; many lose strength or spoil after they are opened. The too careful housewife is apt to clutter her shelves with iodine that has grown too strong, oil that has become rancid, or furniture polish that is merely dregs.

HOOKS, WHEN SCREWED IN HARD WOOD.

Use a clothespin to screw a small hook into hardwood. It will make it much easier than if the fingers are used.

ICE BOX PIPED OUT OF DOORS.

If you live on the first floor, have your ice box piped out of doors and save wet floors.

ICE ECONOMY.

If you want to economize ice when making ice cream after the ice and salt are in the freezer, press pieces of newspaper around the top closely and cover all with a heavy gunny sack, or ice bag if you have one. Turn the crank a few times and let it stand ten or fifteen minutes. It will then freeze with about five minutes' turning. The newspapers, being non-conductors, keep all of the cold in and make it unnecessary to add ice continually. Ice cream can be frozen in this way in about half the time, and with just half the ice.

JARS WITH SMALL NECKS, TO CLEAN.

Immense jars with small necks, such as are used for holding flowers, may be cleaned by pouring hot vinegar into them. Cover the jars and allow the vinegar to cool. It removes the peculiar odor arising from decayed stems.

TO SAVE INCANDESCENT MANTLES.

To save incandescent mantles, when lighting, turn on the gas for a second before applying the match; then hold the match about two inches from the top of the chimney. This treatment will cause the mantle to last much longer.

TO REMOVE INK STAINS FROM BOOKS.

Diluted oxalic or tartaric acid will remove ink stains from books without injuring the print.

TO REMOVE INK FROM THE HANDS,

No. 1.

To remove fresh ink stains from the hands, moisten the phosphorus end of a match and rub the stain on the finger with it; or put a few

drops of oxalic acid in the water used in washing off the stain.

TO REMOVE INK FROM THE HANDS,
No. 2.

To remove ink from the hands, wet a sponge with spirits of hartshorn or ammonia and wash the stains vigorously. Rinse at once in clear water, as soap sets in ink and other acid stains.

TO REMOVE INK SPOTS FROM MARBLE.

To remove ink spots from marble, mix well equal parts of spirits of vitriol and lemon juice, wet the spots and in a few minutes rub with a soft cloth and then wash.

INK ON SILVER.

Ink stains on silver or plated articles may be removed with a paste made of chloride of lime and water. This should be left on for a little while and then washed off in warm water.

INK SPOTS ON WHITE GOODS.

Ink spots may be removed from white or light-colored goods by saturating the spots first with

milk and then with turpentine. Roll the cloth up for about half an hour, after which wash out in clear water and you will find that the spots have disappeared.

IF YOU SPILL INK ON THE CARPET.

If you spill ink on the carpet, put salt on it immediately; it will help remove the spot.

TO REMOVE INK STAINS FROM CLOTH.

To remove ink stains from cloth or any absorbent substance, dissolve four ounces of citric acid in two quarts of water that has been previously boiled and cooled. Then add six to eight ounces of a strong, strained solution of borax.

TO CLEAN AN IRON BED.

A tablespoonful of turpentine in a cup of milk makes the best mixture for cleaning an iron bed. Apply with a piece of cheesecloth and polish with flannel.

TO REMOVE IRON MOLD.

To remove iron mold, wet the spot, lay it over

a hot-water plate, put a little salts of lemon on the spot and then wash it as soon as the stain is removed.

IRON RUST, TO REMOVE.

Iron rust—Same as for ink stains. Wet in boiling water, cover thickly with salt, lay in sunshine over a bright tin plate, squeeze on lemon juice, wash in hot water.

IRON RUST ON DAINTIEST OF FABRICS.

To remove iron rust from the daintiest fabric without causing injury, mix cream of tartar with water until it forms a paste, wet the spot and spread on the paste; hang the article in the sun, and as fast as it dries wet again until the rust disappears.

IRON RUST IS DIFFICULT TO REMOVE FROM IRON.

Iron rust is difficult to remove from iron, and a good thing to do is to make the iron rust proof. To do this, heat until it is very hot (almost red) and then brush it with linseed oil. This forms

a sort of varnish that protects the iron and does not chip off easily. This treatment is good for andirons.

RESTORE NATURAL COLOR TO IVORY KNIFE HANDLES.

To restore their natural color to ivory knife handles that have turned yellow, rub them with turpentine.

TO KEEP EGGS.

Place two inches of wood ashes in the bottom of a tin pail. In this stand on the small end as many fresh eggs as you can easily without letting them touch. Sift over them two inches of ashes and adjust another layer of eggs. When the pail is full cover it tight, and place it in a cool cellar. Eggs treated this way are said to keep perfectly all winter.

No. 1.—KEEPING FLOWERS FRESH.

The only drawback to cut flowers is that they wither so quickly, and in keeping them fresh some seem to have more luck than others.

For instance, in the matter of violets, it is possible to wear them several times without noticing the overpowering stale odor which proclaims them beyond redemption.

Of course, many people find that they can not wear cut flowers even for one afternoon, because in some cases the body heat seems to wilt them, but if this can be avoided it is quite possible to find a bunch almost as fresh the second day as on the first if they were properly guarded overnight.

Keep the box that they came in and when you take them off hold the stems under running water for a few minutes, taking care not to wet the violets themselves.

Then wrap them up in the oiled paper and put them back in the covered box outside the window if it is cool; if not, in the refrigerator, but in either case keep them wrapped.

This treatment seems to restore the flowers and hold in the delicious odor which so soon

becomes rank if they are kept unwrapped in a close room.

Some people think a pinch of salt in the water will keep cut flowers fresh longer, and so it does in some cases. In others it seems to change the colors a little. With roses it is successful, but not so much so with violets. A piece of gum camphor is said to be an excellent preservative in the water, and others advocate a small lump of charcoal, but in any case the water should be changed daily and the flowers put in a cool place overnight.

No. 2.—KEEPING CUT FLOWERS.

If you would keep cut flowers fresh for a long time, keep their stems in damp sand instead of water. The wet sand holds the flowers gracefully and firmly, and keeps them pretty much in the positions in which they were arranged.

TO KEEP SILK AND LACE WHITE.

When packing white lace or white silk waists, if you wish them to remain perfectly white,

wrap them in light blue cheesecloth or tissue paper and place in a box. This has been proven a successful method.

THE ODOR OF KEROSENE LAMPS CAN BE STOPPED.

The odor of kerosene lamps can be stopped by putting one teaspoonful of fine table salt into each lamp. The salt should be changed once a month.

TO INSURE KEROSENE LAMPS GIVING A CLEAR AND BRIGHT LIGHT.

To insure kerosene lamps giving a clear and bright light, boil the interior parts of the lamp in vinegar and soda at least once in two weeks.

ABOUT KID GLOVES.

It is well to powder the inside of new gloves before wearing them. It makes them easier to slip on. It also prevents the dye of colored ones from staining the hands.

KITCHEN FLOOR COVERING.

Linoleum is the best kitchen floor covering,

but painted rag and cotton carpets may be scrubbed the same as an oilcloth. Even burlap may be used. The floor is first covered with paper and then an old carpet, clean and whole, or double burlap, is tacked in place. A sizing of glue water is applied and allowed to dry. It must then be painted with ocher or a filling paint, and then a dry floor paint should be applied. A carpet so treated will last for years, and may be painted over and over again and scrubbed weekly.

ARRANGING A KITCHENETTE.

When arranging these little dollbaby cooking places one should condense arrangements in every possible manner. If a closet with a window is used, all the better, as the opening will provide draft for smells and the closet can be got up a good deal in regular kitchen manner. There could be the white paint that cleans so easily, a red brick linoleum and white enameled shelves set with an array of cooking vessels and attractive crockery utensils for holding the

things of the larder. If much cooking goes on an icebox is indispensable, and the portable nursery ones are just the sort to get, as these are very small, although generous enough for the use of two persons.

A coffee pot, three earthenware casseroles, a double boiler, two saucepans and two of the little French plates or frying pans are enough furnishings for a modest closet kitchenette. If the householders are tea drinkers, the tea table, with all the apparatus used, could stand in the living room and so leave still more space in the kitchenette.

These little makeshift kitchens, which women of domestic tastes have caused to be introduced into the smartest apartments, are the inspiration for wonderful inventions in the way of cooking conveniences. One is a baker which seems to have been devised at the first period of the metal age—a simple perforated tin plaque, lined with something or other, and topped with a heavy tin cover in one piece. On

this minute thing almost anything small enough to go under the cover can be baked to a T, potatoes especially well. An omelet pan, folding at the center so that the goody itself does not have to be turned. a glass coffee grinder and pepper and salt casters with two and three bottles are among the other handy things.

Business women are given to putting their kitchenettes in odd places, in bureau drawers, washstands, in the space a door between rooms sometimes gives, and so on. But if the little space used is fitted up compactly and kept neatly it may be anywhere. One thing is certain—the kitchenette adds to the joy of life. It is, above all, the cure open to the woman away from home for homesickness and folly. But one must learn to cook, of course.

TO SHARPEN A KNIFE QUICKLY.

A strip of emery cloth tacked to a small square board will be found useful for quickly sharpening the carving knife.

HOW TO KNIT SOCKS.

The art of knitting socks was almost forgotten when the demand for heavy woolen socks for the European soldiers set women to work at this old-fashioned industry. Many have been the requests for directions for making regulation socks from women who are not content merely to knit or crochet simple mufflers and wristlets.

The following rule comes from an authority on knitting. It calls for needles No. 13:

Cast on twenty-four stitches on each of three needles. Rib three inches, knit six inches plain with one purl stitch in center back. Narrow one stitch on each side of center purl stitch on back needle; knit six rows, narrow one stitch on each side of center purl stitch; knit three rows. For heel, put half the whole number of stitches now on three needles on the purl seam needle, knit three inches plain, then when on seam side, purl until three stitches past the seam stitch; knit fourth and fifth together. Purl one,

turn slip one, knit back plain until the third past the seam stitch, narrow, one plain, turn and continue, having each narrowing one stitch further from the seam stitch until there are no more left to take in. Take up the stitches on each side of heel and knit the foot, narrowing one stitch on each side needle just before you go on to front needle, till you have seventy-two stitches on your three needles. Make the foot nine inches long before you narrow for toe. Toe—Narrow every sixth stitch knit four rows, narrow every fifth stitch. Knit four rows, narrow every fourth stitch; knit four rows, narrow every third stitch; knit three rows, narrow every second stitch; knit two rows, narrow every stitch, bind off and sew up.

IF THE KNOB HAS COME OFF THE KETTLE.

If the knob has come off the kettle, take a cork, put a screw through it, push the screw through the lid of the kettle and screw a bur on

the end. You have a knob that will not come off nor get hot.

LABOR SAVING SCHEMES.

From the Evening Star, by Mary Lee.

I have heard women discuss labor-saving and efficiency schemes by the hour, and then go straight home and into their kitchens and proceed to beat up an egg with a fork or chop meat with a bowl and chopper or mix bread with a bowl and spoon in the time-honored way used by their grandmothers.

We seldom seem to consider that a good machine will save time, human energy and nerves just as efficiently in the home as in the factory or office.

A good workman is known by his tools, they say. He selects them carefully, after trying various types and patterns, and when the collection is complete, they represent his individuality and intelligence, and he values them accordingly.

How many housewives pursue the same plan?

I have seen women drudging along with inadequate or poorly constructed utensils and heard them complain what wearing, weary work house-work is.

It would have taken several hundred years of wearing, weary work if General Goethals had elected to disregard steam shovels and dig the canal with a wheelbarrow and spade.

Take the question of knives, for instance. What is more irritating than to be always hacking at things with a dull, rusty knife? A poor quality of steel refuses to take a keen edge. Therefore never economize on knives; if you can only afford one good one have it of the best steel; get a good sharpener and keep the edge keen and scour into brightness after each using.

Some cooks complain that the meat grinder is so hard to clean that they won't bother with it. Let them consider the number of motions and the amount of energy required to chop a bowl of meat in the old way, to say nothing of

the time, and compare that with the work it is to wash the grinder.

The good bread mixer is another useful machine which we too often disregard.

It saves strength, and there is no comparison between the hand and machine method so far as the sanitation is concerned.

With a bread mixer in every home perhaps the day of "bakers' bread" would be over, and the delicious aroma of the fresh, golden-brown loaves would again pervade the house on baking days.

TO KEEP LACE CREAM COLORED.

Those who want to keep laces the same delicate cream color as when bought will be glad to learn how it is done. After careful washing and rinsing have ready the following: Beat an egg to a froth, add one quart or less of cold water, according to the tint required. Place the lace in this and move it gently through the egg water several times. Then squeeze gently and hang in the shade to dry. When about half

dry, put between two cloths and iron. No starching is needed if these directions are followed. This is a secret given by an old pillow lace worker.

TO MAKE LACE YOKES LIKE NEW.

Apply a white paste such as is used for cleaning white shoes. Rub the paste on smoothly, let it dry and then brush it off.

TO BRIGHTEN DISCOLORED LAMP BURNERS.

To brighten discolored lamp burners, boil them in water in which dried beans have been par-boiled. Or, boil in a strong solution of washing soda.

IF A LAMP IS UPSET AND THE OIL TAKES FIRE.

If a lamp is upset and the oil takes fire, throw flour on it. Water is worse than nothing. A rug or quilt may smother it out.

TO PUT A NEW WICK IN ANY LAMP
BURNER.

To put a new wick in any lamp burner quickly, thread a needle first, run the thread across the wick and pass needle through burner.

Laundry Suggestions.

BLANKETS, HOW TO WASH.

Blankets should be washed through three waters, warm, not hot. The first should have strong, very strong, soapsuds; the second less soap, and the third just enough soap to make the water appear milky. They should then be wrung slightly, thrown over the line and then pulled straight. If they should not be dry when evening comes, fold them and put them in a washbasket and hang again in the sun the following day, and the day thereafter, if necessary, until they are perfectly dry.

BLEACHING CLOTHES.

One of the best bleaching agents known is peroxide of hydrogen, and if a teaspoonful is added to half a tub of the water in which white clothes are rinsed the result will be an agreeable surprise. It gives a pure white color without

any damage to the fabric. This may be applied to silk and wool as well as linen. In handling the peroxide it is well to remember not to pour it on metal; pour it directly from the bottle into the water. It is not difficult to estimate the amount.

A CAMP STOOL TO HOLD THE CLOTHES BASKET.

A camp stool to hold the clothes basket is a convenience on wash day. It is light, easily carried about, and when not in use takes up little room. In hanging out the clothes and taking them from the line, the stool saves stooping and keeps the bottom of the basket clean.

DELICATE FABRIC, STARCHING.

For very delicate fabric, which will not take starch, try sugar in the rinsing water.

FOLDING TABLECLOTH.

Instead of always folding tablecloths and sheets lengthwise, it is an excellent plan to sometimes fold them the other way, as they are less

likely to wear out if the folds are occasionally changed.

DOING UP GLAZED COLLARS.

First see that the collars and cuffs are quite dry after washing before attempting to starch them. Place them in a clean, dry towel and have ready a basin of well made cold water starch. Mix the starch up well from the bottom, lay in as many collars as the starch will easily cover at one time and let the starch soak well through them. Squeeze them with the hands in the starch, then wring as dry as possible. Draw them out straight and lay smoothly on a towel, but do not put one on top of the other; roll each one separately between the towel. Leave for half an hour before ironing, but do not let them get too dry.

When ready to iron, spread wrong side uppermost and iron first one side and then the other. Iron slowly at first, then more and more quickly until there is a glossy surface and the collar is dry. The right side naturally requires the most

ironing, but the wrong side must be ironed quite smooth. Lift the collar occasionally when ironing to let the steam escape and dry the sheet under it with the iron. A teaspoonful of powdered borax in cold starch will give an added stiffness to linen.

WASHING COLORED HANDKERCHIEF.

Colored handkerchiefs should be soaked in cold water for a short time before they are washed. This will prevent the colors from running or fading.

HANDKERCHIEF HINTS.

Put a large-sized piece of orris root into the water in which the handkerchiefs are washed. After ironing they will be dainty with orris. Then place them between the folds of a sachet filled with violet powder and they will not lose their fragrance. Violet and orris together make a real violet scent. To iron without a fire, place the handkerchief between two pieces of white blotting paper and place a heavy weight over it.

HINTS FOR THE HOME LAUNDRESS.

Now when we are beginning to think of washing out the summer blankets and putting them away for the winter.

Here is a suggestion from a woman whose fluffy blankets are a delight: Wash out your blankets in the suds of some good, pure soap; when they are thoroughly clean, change the water and rinse the blanket in water filled with clean soap suds, do not rinse them again in fresh water, but hang them out, as they are, and they will be white and fluffy when dried.

The cotton corduroys that are so attractive for early autumn suitings should always be shrunk before they are made up. If this is done they will wash without shrinking, and may be dried without ironing.

Stockings should be turned inside out when they are put with the general laundry to avoid the lint from the other clothes. It is better, however, to wash the stockings separately, as,

unless the dyes are good, they are apt to run and stain the light clothes.

If this should happen the stocking dye may be removed from the white garments if they are taken out and boiled immediately.

Silk stockings and shirts should never be ironed, as the heat is apt to crack and rot the silk.

If you wish to dry and iron a blouse in a few minutes, wring it thoroughly and then wrap it in a dry towel and twist the ends in the opposite direction; this will wring the water out so that the blouse will be sufficiently dry to iron immediately.

HOME LAUNDERING.

Have clean hot irons with paraffin at hand to keep them smooth and clean, a steady fire and an ironing board covered with several thicknesses of cloth (the top cover is stretched smooth and creaseless), a small brush for sprinkling the clothes with and a clean rack ready to hang the freshly ironed pieces upon. Iron embroid-

ery wet and over several thicknesses of flannel, ironing it on the wrong side, so that the pattern stands out and smooth. Ironing them until they are perfectly dry is one secret of successful work.

Damask and linens must be evenly sprinkled before ironing. Hems are ironed straight. Lace is not ironed at all, but manipulated between the fingers as daintily as if one was working with cobwebs. Fold so that initials and monograms show.

IDEAL LAUNDRY CONTAINER.

A laundry chute is perhaps the ideal container for soiled wearing apparel and household linens. That is to say, the chute is the ideal means of conveying the laundry to its ultimate container in the laundry. But many houses have no laundry chutes, and even with a chute there is still the problem of caring for the soiled articles to consider.

We live, doubtless, in a fastidious age. When the family washing was performed only once a

month, or even less often when the clothes were carried to the nearest river to be washed, there must have been little thought about the task of keeping them until laundry day. Doubtless they were stored in a chest—and that was the end of the matter. It is only now when a weekly laundry day has supplanted a quarter-annual one that we worry about our methods of caring for soiled clothes. The nuns of the medieval hospitals at Paris used to chop through the ice of the Seine in the winter and stand in the icy waters knee deep to do their patients' washing. They probably worried little about the sort of hamper they used.

A wicker hamper is perhaps the ideal laundry container. But it must be kept clean. One enameled white looks so clean that it is hard to remember that it may harbor impurities, even germs. It must be washed in hot water occasionally, and dried in the sunshine, and then occasionally it can be further refreshed with a clean coat of enamel.

Perhaps the ideal method is to have a sunny, dry laundry, and there to gather the soiled clothes. Everything damp, like bath towels, should be spread out on a washable wooden or metal rack and dried each day, then placed in a basket or hamper. The clothes should not be piled together pell-mell. Table linen should be kept by itself in a separate hamper. Household linen can be kept in another and clothes in a third.

A big white enamel tin box is an admirable holder for nursery laundry from a sick room. This should be emptied, scalded and aired every day—the laundry put into boiling water or a disinfecting fluid in the meantime.

Laundry bags in the different rooms can be emptied every day into hampers. These bags should be of a sort easily washed, and every couple of weeks they should be washed.

IRONING DAY TIPS.

A professional ironer insists that ironing is really fascinating work if one knows how to set

about it. This means with irons in good condition and all necessary articles at hand. For ordinary household use irons in sizes from 4 to 6 are the most useful, and one should also have a couple of polishers and a baby iron—say a 2—for getting up into small places and gathers.

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS IRONING IS A TRIAL.

During the summer months ironing is a trial; but if you can manage to do it under the kitchen window, where there is plenty of fresh air and light, you will find your task lightened tremendously.

Cool air will have very little effect upon the irons, and if they do lose just a little heat, the benefit you obtain will atone for it.

IRONING A BIAS.

Be sure to iron garments with the straight of the goods and thus prevent stretching of the bias seams.

IRONING POINTS.

Have a nice ironing blanket and sheet; skirt and sleeve boards cost little and are indispensable. Have a piece of white wax inside a folded rag, on which to give the iron an occasional rub. This makes it "go" well.

WHEN IRONING A BLOUSE WITH BUTTONS ON IT.

When ironing a blouse with buttons on it, it is often found difficult to iron the material round the buttons. Try this hint and save time: Take a rough towel folded several times, lay the buttons face downward on it and iron over the backs. The buttons sink into the soft towel and the material is quickly made perfectly smooth.

No. 1.—A FINE IRON CLEANER.

The best iron cleaner is a piece of wire gauze. It is better than sandpaper, for the dirt falls through the holes and it is not rubbed into the iron again.

No. 2.—TO CLEAN IRONS.

To clean irons, rub them on brown paper over which powdered bath brick has been sprinkled, and if they become rusty, rubbing them with emery powder and a little paraffin will put them right.

TO MAKE THE TASK OF IRONING
EASIER.

To make the task of ironing easier, dissolve a small piece of white laundry wax (the size of a small lump of sugar) in the hot starch. Before ironing, sprinkle the clothes with hot water. The iron will run smooth and the clothes will have a delicate gloss.

CARE OF IRONS.

Irons should be kept in a dry place and not allowed to cool on the stove. They should never be put right onto the fire to heat, as this spoils the smooth surface. When heated over gas a sheet of block tin or iron should be placed over the flame, as moisture which forms rust settles

on the irons if they come into direct contact with the gas.

DO NOT IRON LINGERIE RIBBONS WHILE DAMP.

Do not iron lingerie ribbons while damp if you want them to be soft. Wrap while wet smoothly around a big bottle covered with thick muslin, and press with a cool iron when dry.

TO IRON EMBROIDERED CASES.

When ironing embroidered pillow cases, slip the embroidered end over the end of the ironing board. They iron much easier this way. A turkish towel slipped inside of case to iron on brings out the embroidery.

IRON RUST ON WHITE CLOTHES.

Iron rust can often be removed from white clothes by rubbing the spot with a ripe tomato, then cover with salt and let it dry in the sunlight. Finally wash out in clear warm water.

TO KEEP IRONS FROM RUSTING.

To keep irons from rusting, rub with mutton

fat and wrap in brown paper before putting away.

A LITTLE KEROSENE OIL PUT INTO STARCH.

A little kerosene oil put into starch as it is cooking makes ironing easier and waxed cracker boxes are splendid for polishing hot irons.

LACE AND EMBROIDERY, TO PRESS.

Lace and embroidery must be pressed on the wrong side over a thick pad of felt; articles such as calico, linens, prints, chintzes, etc., are ironed on the right side to give them a finish. The professional ironer irons silks and starched things wet, and she also thoroughly dries everything under the iron, while the amateur makes the mistake of "damping down" her silks and starched things, and often hangs her work up to "air" before it is dry.

LACE CURTAINS THAT ARE SOILED.

When boiling up soiled lace curtains, put a teaspoonful of spirits of turpentine in water.

LAUNDRY BAGS FOR CHILDREN.

Children should have individual laundry bags and be taught to put all soiled clothing in them as soon as taken off.

SAVE LAUNDRY BILLS ON WORK
APRONS.

For the housekeeper who would like to save laundry bills on work aprons here is a suggestion: Get some light-weight white oilcloth and cut out a big apron, coming down to the bottom of the dress and going over the shoulders, shaping it about the waist. Then sew up the seams and bind the edges with white tape. When the apron is soiled, it can be laid on the table and scrubbed with clean, warm soapsuds.

LAUNDERING CORDUROY.

Make warm suds with good white soap. In this soak for half an hour the goods to be washed. Squeeze out, but do not wring; then put them into a tub of clean, warm suds. Wash until quite clean, and squeeze as before; put

into a tub with one tablespoon of borax, pour on boiling water, and let stand for ten minutes, moving the goods occasionally with a stick.

Add sufficient cold water to cool, squeeze out again and put into a tub of cold rinsing water. Lift from this by the top of the garment and allow to drain. Next give the garment a vigorous shaking and hang up to dry. Shape the garment as it dries, and try to dry evenly.

Corduroy should not be ironed. It is known as cotton velvet; as a matter of fact, it is all cotton. Therefore boiling water will not harm it. If, however, the water is hard, it may cause the cotton to thicken; hence, the addition of the borax. But the chief cause of failure lies in wringing the material. This will not only destroy the nap, but will make the garment streaky—as many women have discovered to their sorrow.

Corduroy can be so laundered that it will look like new until worn out.

ECONOMY IN THE LAUNDRY.

I have heard recently of several young brides who started out with the intention of doing their own laundry work—for the first year, at least. For girls who have not been accustomed to household labor of any description, it appears rather formidable to take on the heaviest of all household tasks; and it can be accomplished with genuine economy only if it be taken up thoughtfully and scientifically.

“Economy” is a comprehensive phrase as commonly used. It is not necessarily economical to save the money each week that you would pay a laundress. It is economical only if you can do that work yourself without impairing your health or your efficiency for other necessary tasks.

The inexperienced woman must lay out the laundry work very systematically if she is going to undertake it. All unnecessary labor should be eliminated.

The first thing to be considered is the amount

of clothes and household linen that must be used each week. With a little thought the weekly wash can be cut down materially.

Dish cloths and kitchen rags are first to be taken off the list. It will be necessary to have two or three dish towels for the silver, but hot water and drying racks for the china and glass and rolls of absorbent paper for the pots and pans will eliminate the rest. Luncheon sets of colored linen or grass linen will save materially on tablecloths, if you use them at luncheon and breakfast.

Towels are another item that can be managed economically for the woman who has to do her own laundry; face and hand towels are a sheer luxury. The Turkish bath towel will serve equally well all purposes and it does not have to be ironed.

In matter of personal linen, washable crepe underclothes that do not need pressing represent the greatest saving. The white lingerie petticoat should be replaced by one of light-col-

ored silk, and the white blouse by colored linen. To wear white that is not immaculate is an unpardonable offense against taste, and the wardrobe of the woman who must economize in her laundry should be planned with this important fact in mind.

The next point to be considered is the time consumed in washing. If the clothes are put in soak Sunday night, and washing is to be done Monday, then Monday must be left free for that and that alone, so far as possible. Meals must be simplified and a cold supper that can be prepared the day before should take the place of dinner.

System, order and economy may make the work of the laundry comparatively light; but if this work is approached carelessly and without due planning, it will be found too heavy a task for the inexperienced woman.

LAUNDERING LACES.

One of the useful arts is the washing of fine blouses and laces, something for which we pay

the goodly prices or fret with a laundress at home.

There are fine pieces of lace in nearly every woman's wardrobe which it would be a shame to trust to the laundry or the average laundress.

However, the beautiful finish that you may get and the greater care that you will take of your own treasures will well repay the trouble of learning how to do up these delicate things.

In the first place, never use hot water. Be sure that your water is merely warm. Hot water would be most disastrous, indeed, for it would shrink and pull the blouses and laces hopelessly out of shape. Use a good, pure white soap. And be sure that it is pure. Soaps that are not will eat into your fine material like acid. Make a good lather and dip the blouse into it, rinsing it several times. Do not rub the material either together or against anything. Squeeze it.

Next take the blouse out of the suds and rinse it through cold, clear water two or three times.

Be sure that the temperature in which you dry the blouse is not too hot, as that also might be disastrous to the shape of your blouse. Throw the article over a clothes horse and remember to change its position several times while it is drying, that it may dry evenly. Otherwise the weight of the wet portions of the garment, however slight that weight may be, will drag down on the blouse and pull it out of shape.

TO LAUNDER TATTING.

Baste your tatting firmly to a Turkish towel and wash it as though it were a part of the towel. When nearly dry press the tatting while still on the towel, then carefully remove the basting threads and you will find your tatting almost like new.

LAUNDRY TIME SAVER.

For the woman who does her own laundry work great saving of time and strength may be found in the use of the small five-cent vegetable

brushes. They are just the thing to rub soiled neckbands, wrists and all badly soiled garments.

LAUNDER VOILE.

Never rub soap directly on the goods, because this will thicken the threads of the background and so soften and flatten the design that it will almost disappear; in which event, of course, the beauty will be lost.

Voile should be soaked in soapsuds, washed in warm suds and rinsed twice—first in luke warm water, then in cold water. It should not be put through a wringer, but squeezed through the hands. A very cool iron will serve for pressing.

A LAUNDRY WRINKLE.

Place a slice of lemon with the rind removed in your boiler of clothes. The result will be clothes beautifully clean and white without in any way injuring them.

LINEN DRESS, STARCHING AND IRON- ING.

Pure dress linens should never be starched. Linen should be ironed while very damp, and the result will be a fine glossy finish.

LINT, TO CLEAN.

A long-handled buttonhook should be kept in the laundry to clean the lint from the tub outlets.

IF LIQUID BLUE IS USED FOR BLUING.

If liquid blue is used for bluing the clothes, they should be thoroughly free from soap before it is used, as the combination of soap and blue causes rust.

MEND ANYTHING BEFORE IT IS STARCHED.

It is of the utmost importance to mend anything that needs starch before it is laundered. If the torn or worn place is starched and ironed it is torn and worn just so much the more, and a stiff, worn place is very difficult to mend.

RINSING BLANKETS ON THE LINE.

You may use the garden hose for rinsing blankets and rugs on the line. Blankets dry without wrinkles. Rugs should first be scrubbed with ammonia and water. Use a brush for that, then rinse.

TO RINSE COLORED BLOUSES.

One ounce of Epsom salts added to a gallon of water makes an excellent rinsing mixture for colored blouses and wash dresses.

RINSING LACE, TO GIVE IT A CREAM COLOR.

Instead of adding bluing to water in which lace has been rinsed try making the final rinsing in milk; it gives a lovely creamy tone to the lace.

TO RETAIN THE HEAT IN SAD IRONS.

To retain the heat in sad irons, purchase a square soapstone and use it for an iron stand. The irons will remain hot twice as long.

SILK SHOULD NEVER BE IRONED ON THE RIGHT SIDE.

Silk should never be ironed on the right side, as it will be shiny wherever the iron has touched it.

SOAKING CLOTHES.

Our grandmothers used always to put the clothes "to soak" the night before; but now time and space seem to be lacking for that particular rite. Much the same result may be obtained by allowing the clothes to stand for a while in hot soapsuds; the heat expands the fiber and the alkali of the soap softens and removes the dirt, and the washing is made much easier.

STAINS AND SPOTS ON LINEN.

After removing any stains and spots present in linen wash in warm suds. Do not starch, but treat as follows: Hang out very straight on line, with warp threads across line. While still slightly damp take from line, fold carefully and evenly and iron dry. Begin ironing on wrong

side, finish on right. Use only a moderately hot iron. Fold lengthwise three times one week, four times the next week, to prevent wear on creases. Instead of folding any further, roll the linen on heavy cylindrical cloth-covered objects. (I use a discarded rolling pin that I covered with several layers of cheesecloth.) The life of the tablecloths and napkins is much lengthened by this treatment. Table linen should be boiled only occasionally.

HOW TO MAKE STARCH.

This is the way to make plain boiled starch:

Allow two tablespoonfuls of starch to a gallon of water. Wet the starch with cold water until it is of the consistency of cream. Then pour over it the water, which is bubbling. Stir constantly until smooth and boil for five minutes. Add an inch of candle—to a gallon—or a tablespoonful of lard to give a very smooth starch.

This is the foundation for all starching, excepting that done with uncooked starch.

If a very stiff starch is desired a tablespoonful of gum arabic water to a quart of starch gives good results.

To prepare gum arabic water pour two cups of boiling water over a quarter of a pound of gum arabic. When the gum is dissolved, strain the solution into a bottle, cork and keep on hand for use in the laundry.

STARCHING BY COLD STARCHING PROCESS.

When starching by the cold starching process mix the starch with quite hot water instead of cold, and you will find that it will not stick to the iron and the garment can be ironed in one-half the time.

STARCHING COLORS.

The starching of colored things is indeed an art, for starch must be carefully used if it is not to show in a colored fabric.

Some laundresses wash colored garments in starchy water—using one part of boiled starch

to four parts of water. This, they think, preserves the color.

Be that as it may, most persons use starch only after the colored clothes are rinsed. And in starching colored things, put enough starch for only two or three garments into a bowl. Starch the two or three garments, and add more starch to stiffen, or, if there is any color in the starch from the clothes, begin with a new supply.

It is quite possible to vary starch for starching different colors.

For blue things, of course, bluing is used. Never dip bluing bags into the starch, but make the starch of water that has been blued with the bluing.

For black garments, black starch is sold that is quite satisfactory. White starch is almost sure to give unsatisfactory results on black material.

A little clear coffee can be added to starch for tan or cream materials, and this is better than pure white starch in many colored things.

Some laundresses get good results by starching with rice water, with water in which potatoes have been boiled—strained thoroughly, of course—with cornstarch, with white flour. And then there is the fine starch that does not need cooking that can be very satisfactorily used in many cases. It should be made according to directions on each package, and can be tinted, as can the boiled starch.

TO STARCH ORGANDIE.

Organdie, which is very thin and sheer, does not need heavy starching, and it is perhaps better to do all the stiffening of this material with gum arabic.

Add two tablespoonfuls of the prepared gum arabic water to a quart of lukewarm water and dip the organdie, after it has been dried, into this. Roll the garments into a tight roll and allow to get partly dry. Have ready an atomizer containing lukewarm water, and with this atomize the outside of the roll, which will be

drier than the inside. Iron the starched organ-die on the wrong side as far as possible.

Very sheer muslin curtains can be starched in the same way, if they are desired very stiff. But if they are not wanted so stiff, add a little of the gum arabic water to the rinsing water, roll the curtains tight, and iron before they are quite dry—always on the wrong side.

It is a very good plan to have a little bowl containing very thin starch on the ironing board when starched things are to be ironed. If a speck appears on the object to be ironed, rub it off with the starch instead of with plain water, and so run no risk of leaving an unstarched place in a starched surface.

TO CLEAN CRETONNE CURTAINS.

To clean cretonne curtains, first shake them free from dust and wash in rain water if possible, but if this is not obtainable use borax to soften the water, then add about one-fourth of a cup of kerosene to a tub of water. It is excellent for removing dust from this fabric.

The water should not be hot, but warm enough to make a good suds with either white soap or a wool soap. Never rub soap on these curtains, nor use alkali of any kind. Wash in two suds and rinse in tepid water containing salt, which will brighten the colors, especially blue, purple and pink. Dry and iron while rather damp on the wrong side. They should not be starched.

WASHING WINDOW CURTAINS.

First measure the width of the curtains to keep for reference. Lace curtains in particular are often torn by being stretched beyond their original width. They are not hard to wash if properly handled. Shake them free from dust and look them over to see that they hold no needles or pins to injure the hands. Then carefully mend all torn places by placing a piece of net under the place to be mended.

Old lace curtains should be saved for this purpose. Never put lace curtains in a washing machine, as it will tear the delicate fiber, and do not wash too many at once. If laces or nets

have a grayish cast, they should be bleached. Put a little lye in the boiling suds to make them a clear white. Add only enough to the water to make it slightly slippery to the touch. If they are not to be bleached, but just washed, have the first wash water rather warm. Soap the curtains well, roll them, and pack them into the tub. Keep them well covered with water. Add at least a tablespoonful of kerosene to the first water. This will loosen the dust. Soak them overnight if convenient, then wash them carefully, put them in the boiling suds, wash a second time and rinse. Make the starch very thin. Never wring lace curtains, but squeeze them.

If curtains are to be ironed, they should be stretched before they are sprinkled. All ruffles must be pulled into shape. Net curtains will hang straighter if folded through the center edge to edge and ironed dry from one end to the other. Fold again through the center and hang over a clothes rack. A No. 9 iron is not

too large. It retains the heat and presses the curtains more quickly. No moisture should be felt in a curtain after it leaves the ironing board. If they are dried upon curtain stretchers, keep all but the end fastened in the basket or a large pan, so that no part will drag on the floor, and choose a sunny place for the drying.

WASHING CURTAINS BY SIMPLE METHOD.

Every housewife knows the disappointment of seeing her nice curtains pulled out of shape, frayed at the edges and perhaps torn. Damage may be eliminated if the following plan be adopted:

Wash out the curtain in lukewarm water in which a small quantity of good soap has been dissolved, rinse carefully, then run rod through top and put up the wet curtain at the most convenient window for drying (as though it were up to stay). Put another rod, preferably a metal one, through bottom hem. This will bring the curtain perfectly straight, in which position

it will dry. When dry take it down, iron hems at top and bottom, press all over if desired, and the curtain is ready to go into position. This method is very simple and efficacious and one has the satisfaction of knowing that the curtain has not been injured by any deleterious compound. Curtains so treated will be found to hang perfectly straight and even, without having to be stretched or pulled.

PAINT STAINS ON CURTAINS.

Perhaps the curtain has at some time brushed against a newly painted window sill. These paint stains can be removed with turpentine if they are fresh. In case they are old, turpentine and chloroform can be used, and the stain blotted out with a piece of blotting paper.

DRYING CURTAINS OUTDOORS.

If you wish to dry them outdoors on the clothesline, hang them lengthways on the line. Place opposite scallops together and pull the whole curtain straight. The starch will stick the opposite halves together, no pins being need-

ed. The curtains will be straight and even and no ironing will be necessary, only a pressing of the scallops. A favorite way with many housekeepers is to pin them on the clothesline and fasten another line as far down as the curtain hangs. Then pin the curtain securely to both lines so as to pull it taut. This is almost as good as the stretcher and far less trouble.

SOAKING LACE CURTAINS.

A word more about lace curtains. Put lightweight lace curtains to soak over night in clear, cold water. The next morning you will find the bottom of the tub filled with dirt, and the curtains will be almost clean, requiring no rubbing, just a little rinsing and boiling to make them snow white. Heavy-mesh curtains will need more boiling. A good starch is made with one tablespoonful of pulverized starch and one teaspoonful of gum arabic. Pour on three pints of boiling water, but do not let boil. If cream-colored lace curtains are rinsed in tea or weak coffee they will hold their color better.

STRETCHING LACE CURTAINS.

Adjust the curtain stretcher to the size of the curtain measurements taken before washing, and pin the curtain edges to it. These wooden curtain stretchers, made with adjustable pins, can be bought in any department store. If you do not own a curtain stretcher, you can measure out the distances on a sheet and pin the curtain to it, drying them either on the floor or lawn.

Several curtains may be put on one stretcher at the same time if laid flat; one over the other. If the curtains become a little dry before they are pinned, they should be sprinkled again, for the edges do not dry well unless the curtain is uniformly wet.

By keeping the curtains folded during the entire process of washing, the net is protected from being torn. In taking curtains off the stretchers, do not pull them, but lift the edges carefully from each adjustable pin, so that they will not ruffle. Sometimes the border, or lace

148 LAUNDRY SUGGESTIONS.

insert, needs pressing. If so, first dampen it, then cover with a cloth and iron on the wrong side.

TO WASH ANYTHING THAT IS GREASY.

To wash anything that is greasy, use hot soda water. The alkali turns the grease into soap, which will do its own cleaning.

WHEN WASHING COARSE CLOTHES.

When washing coarse clothes, use soft soap, as it will go farther than the ordinary yellow and is more efficacious.

TO WASH LACE.

Tack the lace to a piece of flannel sewed around a bottle. The bottle should then be splashed in warm suds and rinsed by splashing in clear water. The lace is then allowed to dry on the bottle before it is removed.

WHEN WASHING RATINE.

When washing ratine do not put it through a wringer. After rinsing wring loosely and

hang out slightly heavy with water. If washed this way the article will not need much ironing.

WASHING SILK STOCKINGS.

Silk stockings should never be ironed. Wash them in soapsuds (made with good white soap and luke-warm water) and rinse in clear water of the same temperature. Rough dry.

IF WHITE CLOTHES LOOK SLIGHTLY YELLOW AFTER BEING WASHED.

If white clothes look slightly yellow after being washed, one tablespoonful of kerosene, turpentine, or peroxide of hydrogen added to the rinsing water will aid in whitening them.

WASHING WHITE SILK STOCKINGS.

White silk stockings have a most annoying habit of acquiring a yellowish tinge after two or three washings, and this is usually due to their being washed out in a basin and hung up to dry without bleaching. Soak the stockings half an hour in cold water into which a pinch of borax has been dropped; then wash them in

warm, but not hot water. Rinse in three waters—this is very important, for the least bit of soap remaining will yellow the silk—and blue the last rinsing water just a trifle. Then hang the stockings in the sun and wind to bleach and dry.

Never touch them with a hot iron, but when thoroughly dry smooth out and roll up. Never put white silk stockings to soak with black or colored silk stockings, for the dye is very apt to run out and streak the white hose badly. White cotton stockings, now considered better taste with sport shoes than silk hosiery, may be washed in the same manner, but the cotton stocking looks best if pressed with a hot iron so that the fuzzy nap in the weave is laid perfectly flat.

FOR A WINDY WASH DAY.

When sheets are hung outdoors in a wind that is apt to whip them out at the hems, fold them once and pin on the line at the hems. They cannot whip to do any damage, and will dry rapidly.

LAUNDRY SUGGESTIONS. 151

DO NOT LEAVE WOODEN TUBS TO DRY.

Do not leave wooden tubs to dry or they will quickly crack and come apart. Keep a little water always standing in them.

Household Wisdom.

USE FOR LEAKY HOT-WATER BOTTLES.

You can make use of leaky hot-water bottles. Filled with hot sand or salt, they may be used in the care and treatment of patients. Keep the bottle inflated and closed when not in use.

TO REMOVE LEATHER STAINS.

To remove leather stains made by shoes on white or light-colored stockings, use borax.

LIGHT DISHES, TO TAKE OUT FROM THE OVEN.

A pancake turner with a long handle may be used to take light dishes from the oven, and it will save many burns on the arm.

LIGHT-HOUSEKEEPING.

When keeping house in two rooms a closet may be converted into a kitchen and fitted up as follows: Cover the floor with a remnant of linoleum and the walls with white table oil-

cloth. Put in a small gas stove, connected with the gas fixtures in the room. Around three sides of the closet shelves may be provided to hold the necessary supplies and chinaware. Hooks should be placed under the shelves for the kitchen utensils of white enamel. A small work table, covered with white oilcloth, will make the little kitchen complete.

TO POLISH LINOLEUM.

Take common beeswax and shave it very thin with a knife dipped in hot water. Cover the wax with turpentine and let it stand twenty-four hours. Do not heat it on the stove as this will dissolve it and make it like a soft paste. Clean your linoleum with warm water and a little soap until it is perfectly clean, then take a woolen cloth and put on some of the above paste and polish with another woolen cloth. This will surely save scrubbing and cleaning the floors every week, and also saves wear and tear on the linoleum,

LINOLEUM, TO RENOVATE.

Should your linoleum require renovating, wash it first with soap and water, and when it is thoroughly dry paint it with the following: Yellow wax, five ounces; oil of turpentine, eleven ounces; varnish, five ounces. Mix at a gentle heat and apply with a woolen rag.

LINT AND DUST, TO TAKE UP FROM
THE FLOOR.

Buy a common blackboard eraser and fasten it firmly to an old broom handle. If the eraser is dipped into a little coal oil it will take up all lint and dust and polish the floor at the same time.

TO MAKE LIQUID GLUE FOR LABELING
ON TIN.

To make liquid glue for labeling on tin, take one quart of boiling water, two ounces of pulverized borax and then add four ounces of gum shellac and boil till dissolved.

WEAR LOOSE CHAMOIS GLOVES FOR MOST HOUSEWORK.

Wear loose chamois gloves for most housework, whenever possible, and occasionally sprinkle a little flour inside, as this prevents the heat from harming the skin.

TO RENEW THE LUSTER OF MOROCCO.

To renew the luster of morocco, or any other leather, apply the white of an egg with a sponge.

TO REMOVE MACHINE OIL SPOTS.

To remove machine oil from materials in which the colors might run, use cold water, to which has been added a teaspoonful of ammonia. Then wash with soap.

TO MEND A MACKINTOSH.

To mend a mackintosh, make a cement by dissolving shreds of pure rubber in naphtha to make a stiff paste. Apply the paste to each edge to be joined; lay the mackintosh on a table, bring the torn edges together and place a weight on them until the cement has hardened.

MAKING A FIRE.

First, so that there will be a free circulation of air, be sure that the grate is clean and the ash pan emptied.

Put a layer of shavings or a crumpled newspaper in the grate—printer's ink is quite inflammable. Over this foundation place some fine splinters of kindlings, with dried pieces of orange peel or corncobs, if you happen to have them. Next put a layer of larger wood, reaching ends and sides. This helps the coal to kindle, and a stronger and more rapid blaze is obtained by its use.

Then light the paper from beneath, and as soon as it is thoroughly kindled put on a sprinkling of coal, opening the direct chimney and oven drafts.

Then as the wood burns away more coal—enough to keep even with the fire bricks, but never enough to go above them.

Should you desire a brisk fire all day, add a sprinkling of coal often. This is far better than

letting the fire burn nearly out and then adding a large quantity of coal.

In caring for the fire at night, make it partly clear of ashes, then put on coal. After the blue-flames point has passed, close, or nearly close, the drafts and open the little sliding doors that let cold air over the fire box. Where it is possible arrange the windows of the room so that any gas may escape. Put on a little wood and a sprinkling of coal in the morning, then shake down the fire and open the drafts.

USES OF MARBLE SLAB.

We have all heard of the ducky cook who declared that the excellence of her beaten biscuit was due, not to her skill, but to the marble slab on which they were pounded, which had been the gravestone of "an awful good woman." To those who can beg or borrow the slabs which formed the top of some erstwhile modish walnut relic of a bureau or table many uses will suggest themselves. The housewife will use it to roll her finest pastry on, as its cold temperature

will add materially to the flakiness of her crust, while the children will delight to roll fondant or drop mint creams on its smooth surface.

It is the college girl, however, who will try to find one for her, for many and varied are the ends it will serve in the halls of learning. For pressing flowers for her herbarium, it is unequalled, and it forms an ideal writing pad, to save the table cover from sundry drops of ink; while its weight allows it to hold fast to papers placed under its edges, blow the breeze never so high.

Placed on the top of the steam radiator, it is much better than the traditional mirror or window pane for drying the best handkerchiefs; while crocheted collars need no ironing when well stretched on it and pulled into shape; and it may even serve for an ironing board on which to press one's dainty waists or the draggled edges of a skirt, with the tiny electric irons, and what finer board could be found on which to cut stencil patterns than the tried and trusty slab?

One piece of marble was divided into squares, and colored, so that chess or checkers might be played on it, with no danger of the board's "splitting" during a crisis of the game; while a smaller piece served as an ironing stand for the busy housewife, holding the heat much better than the perforated one which it displaced.

CHILD'S NAME ON SCHOOL BOOKS AND OVERSHOES.

A rubber stamp with the child's name on it can be used to mark school books and overshoes. Such articles are often lost or stolen, and not always is it an easy matter to identify them unless properly marked.

CARE OF MATTING.

Rub every two or three months with salt water, lukewarm, and dry quickly with a clean cloth.

MENDING CHINA AND POTTERY.

The best means for mending china, porcelain, or pottery of any description, is white oil paint. Buy a tube of a good make and use it like tube

paste. If you have a box of oil colors, add enough of any tint to the white to match the broken article, but the white paint does not show, and is astonishingly effective.

TO BRIGHTEN METAL LACE.

Gold or silver lace may be brightened by boiling in hydrochloric acid slightly diluted with water. The acid will remove the verdigris and dust and leave the gold or silver uninjured. Clean gold lace on garments by applying powdered ammonia briskly with a flannel. Finish by giving it a good brushing or polishing with an old silk handkerchief.

REMEDY FOR MILDEW.

An excellent remedy for mildew is to saturate the article with kerosene, roll it up and let stand for at least twenty-four hours, then wash it in hot soapsuds.

No. 1.—TO REMOVE MILDEW STAINS.

Mix a small quantity of soft soap with the same proportion of powdered starch and salt

and the juice of a lemon. Apply this mixture to both sides of the stain with a small brush, and, if possible, let the article lie on the grass all day and night until the stains have quite disappeared. Then wash in the usual way.

No. 2.—MILDEW STAINS, TO REMOVE.

Wet in boiling water, wring dry, dip in sour milk, lay in sun, cover with salt very thick. Finer pieces of linen should be covered with sifted starch and laid on grass in sun.

TO REMOVE MILDEW FROM WHITE CLOTHES.

To remove mildew from white clothes, spread the juice of ripe tomatoes on the spots and lay the article on the grass in the sun. It may be necessary to make a second application if the stains are bad.

TO POLISH MIRRORS.

Rub mirrors with methylated spirits and polish with a touch of blue powder.

TO PREVENT MOLD ON BOOKS.

During continued damp weather books often become musty and even moldy. This can be prevented by placing a few drops of oil of lavender and Canada balsam in the back corner of each bookshelf.

THIS DRIVES MOSQUITOES AWAY.

Wind a piece of paper around a pencil and fill the tube so formed with Persian powder. Stand in a dish of sand and burn it an hour before bedtime. This drives the mosquitoes away and so insures an untroubled night's sleep.

REMEDIES FOR MOSQUITO BITES.

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

The most satisfactory remedy known to the writer, from his personal experience, has been moist soap. Wet the end of a piece of ordinary toilet soap and rub it gently on the puncture, and the irritation will soon pass away. Others have enthusiastically recommended household ammonia, or alcohol, or glycerin. One corre-

spondent marks the puncture with a lump of indigo; another with one of the naphthaline moth balls; another, iodine. Rev. R. W. Anderson, of Wando, S. C., states that he has found that by holding his hand to a hot lamp chimney the irritation of mosquito punctures will be relieved instantly.

PROTECTION FROM BITES.

Spirits of camphor rubbed upon the face and hands or a few drops on the pillow at night will keep mosquitoes away for a time, and this is also a well-known property of oil of pennyroyal. Neither of these substances is durable; that is to say, a single application will not last through the night. Oil of peppermint, lemon juice, and vinegar have all been recommended, while oil of tar has been used in regions where mosquitoes are especially abundant. Oil of citronella is one of the best substances to be used in this way. The odor is objectionable to some people, but not to many, and it is efficient in keeping away mosquitoes for several hours. The best mixture

tried by the writer was sent to him by Mr. C. A. Nash, of New York, and is as follows: Oil of citronella, 1 ounce; spirits of camphor, 1 ounce; oil of cedar, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

Ordinarily a few drops on a bath towel hung over the head of the bed will keep the common house mosquitoes away. Where they are very abundant and persistent a few drops rubbed on the face and hands will suffice. Even this mixture, however, loses its efficacy toward the close of a long night.

EXCELLENT MOTH BAGS.

If one does not care to go to the expense of buying a cedar or camphor wood chest there is another way to obtain excellent mothproof bags at small expense. Save all the old night-dresses, cut out the sleeves, sew the sleeve holes firmly together, and then sew up the neck, leaving a tiny space for the hook of the hanger to go through. This will give a bag open at the bottom only which can be slipped over the hanger, containing any clothing to be put away.

Little gauze pockets of tar and camphor sewed around the bottom and on the inside of this improvised bag will keep moths away, even if the bottom is left open, but if the clothes are especially tempting to moths it is better to put in the camphor and tar pockets and then sew up the bottom, so that the nightdress is made into a regular bag.

No. 1.—IF THERE ARE MOTHS IN THE
CARPET.

If you fear moths in the carpets or rugs, scrub the floor with strong hot salt and water and when sweeping the rugs each week, or the carpet, sprinkle it first with salt. This salt-and-water treatment could hardly be applied to a nicely finished floor, but moths seldom get into rugs laid on a shellacked or waxed hardwood floor. If they do, the rugs can simply be taken into the air and thoroughly cleaned, with salt sprinkled on them before the sweeping or beating, and they can be held over steaming water. The steam kills the moths.

No. 2.—IF MOTHS ARE IN A CARPET.

If moths are in a carpet, spread a damp towel over the part and iron it dry with a hot iron. The heat and steam will kill the worms and eggs.

PROTECTION FROM MOTHS.

Gasoline or benzine is a good friend to the housekeeper. It is not only good as a cleanser, cleaning clothes, ribbons, paints, marble and bath perfectly, but it is certain death to moths or the larvae. If any article is infected, a thorough spraying with gasoline, several times repeated, will be a certain remedy. It is wise to spray and brush with gasoline all articles, especially furs, then wrap closely in newspapers and pack away in boxes, with a cover of newspapers.

TO SAVE FURS FROM MOTHS.

A good way to save the furs from the moths is to sprinkle them well with powdered alum,

then rub this well into the skin of the furs before packing them away.

CLOTHES MOTHS.

From U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology.

There is no easy method of preventing the damage done by clothes moths, and to maintain the integrity of woollens or other materials which are likely to attack demands constant vigilance, with frequent inspection and treatment. In general, they are likely to affect injuriously only articles which are put away and left undisturbed for some little time. Articles in daily or weekly use, and apartments frequently aired and swept, or used as living rooms, are not apt to be seriously affected. Carpets under these conditions are rarely attacked, except sometimes around the borders, where the insects are not so much disturbed by walking and sweeping. Agitation, such as beating, shaking, or brushing, and exposure to air and sunlight, are old remedies and still among the best at command. Various repellents, such as tobacco, camphor,

naphthaline cones or balls, and cedar chips or sprigs, have a certain value if the garments are not already stocked with eggs or larvae. The odors of these repellents are so disagreeable to the parent moths that they are not likely to come to deposit their eggs as long as the odor is strong. As the odor weakens the protection decreases, and if the eggs or larvae are already present, these odors have no effect on their development; while if the moths are inclosed with the stored material to be protected by these repellents, so that they can not escape, they will of necessity deposit their eggs, and the destructive work of the larvae will be little, if at all, restricted. After woollens have been given a vigorous and thorough treatment and aired and exposed to sunlight, however, it is of some advantage in packing them away to inclose with them any of the repellents mentioned. Cedar chests and wardrobes are of value in proportion to the freedom of the material from infestation when stored away; but, as the odor of the wood

is largely lost with age, in the course of a few years the protection greatly decreases. Furs and such garments may also be stored in boxes or trunks which have been lined with heavy tar paper used in buildings. New papering should be given to such receptacles every year or two. Similarly, the tarred paper moth bags obtainable at dry-goods houses are of some value; always, however, the materials should first be subjected to the treatment outlined above.

To protect carpets, clothes, and cloth-covered furniture, furs, etc., these should be thoroughly beaten, shaken, brushed, and exposed as long as practicable to the sunlight in early spring, either in April, May, or June, depending on the latitude. The brushing of garments is a very important consideration, to remove the eggs or young larvae which might escape notice. Such material can then be hung away in clothes closets which have been thoroughly cleaned, and, if necessary, sprayed with benzine about the cracks of the floor and the baseboards. If no

other protection be given, the garments should be examined at least once a month during summer, brushed, and, if necessary, exposed to the sunlight.

It would be more convenient, however, so to inclose or wrap up such material as to prevent the access of the moths to it, after it has once been thoroughly treated and aired. This can be easily effected in the case of clothing and furs by wrapping tightly in stout paper or inclosing in well-made bags of cotton or linen cloth or strong paper. Doctor Howard has adopted a plan which is inexpensive, and which he has found eminently satisfactory. For a small sum he secures a number of the large pasteboard boxes, such as tailors use, and in these packs away all winter clothing, gumming a strip of wrapping paper around the edge, so as to seal up the box completely and leave no cracks. These boxes with care will last many years. With thoroughly preliminary treatment it will not be necessary to use the tar-impregnated

paper sacks sold as moth protectors, which may be objectionable on account of the odor.

In the case of cloth-covered furniture and cloth-lined carriages, which are stored or left unused for considerable periods in summer, it will probably be necessary to spray them twice or three times, viz, in April, June, and August, with benzine or naphtha, to protect them from moths. These substances can be applied very readily with any small spraying device, and will not harm the material, but caution must be exercised on account of their inflammability. Another means of protecting such articles is to sponge them very carefully with a dilute solution of corrosive sublimate in alcohol, made just strong enough not to leave a white stain.

The method of protection adopted by one of the leading furriers of Washington, who also has a large business and experience in storing costly furs, etc., is practically the course already outlined. Furs when received are first most thoroughly and vigorously beaten with small

sticks, to dislodge all loosened hair and the larvae or moths. They are then gone over carefully with a steel comb and packed away in large boxes lined with heavy tar roofing paper, or in closets similarly lined with this paper. An examination is made every two to four weeks, and, if necessary at any time, any garment requiring it is rebeaten and combed. During many years of experience in this climate, which is especially favorable to moth damage, this merchant has prevented any serious injury from moths.

COLD STORAGE.

The best method of protection, and the one now commonly adopted by dealers in carpets, furs, etc., is cold storage. In all large towns anyone can avail himself of this means by patronizing storage companies, and safety will be guaranteed.

The most economical degree of cold to be used as a protection from clothes moths and allied insects destructive to woolens and furs has been

definitely determined by the careful experiments carried out at the instance of Doctor Howard by Dr. Albert M. Read, manager of a large storage warehouse company in Washington, D. C. These experiments demonstrated that a temperature maintained at 40 degrees F. renders the larval or other stages of these insects dormant and is thoroughly effective. The larvae, however, are able to stand a steady temperature as low as 18 degrees F. without apparently experiencing any ill results. Doctor Read's experiments have extended over two years, and his later results as reported by Doctor Howard are very interesting. They have demonstrated that while a temperature kept uniformly at 18 degrees F. will not destroy the larvae of *Tineola biselliella* or of the black carpet beetle (*Attagenus piceus*), "an alternation of a low temperature with a comparatively high one invariably results in the death of the larvae of these two insects. For example, if larvae of either of which have been kept at a temperature of 18

degrees F. are removed to a temperature of 40 degrees to 50 degrees F., they will become slightly active and, when returned to the lower temperature and kept there for a little time, will not revive upon a retransfer to the warmer temperature.”

It is recommended, therefore, that storage companies submit goods to two to three changes of temperature as noted before placing them in an apartment kept at a temperature of from 40 degrees to 42 degrees F. The maintenance of a temperature lower than the last indicated is needless and a wasteful expense. Where the cost of cold storage is not an item to be seriously considered, the adoption of this method for protection of goods during the hot months is strongly recommended.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING.

If you have a long, hard tramp before you, or mountain climbing to do, wear two pairs of socks or stockings. A pair of lisle and a pair of silk ones combine well. The two stockings, rub-

bing against each other, absorb the friction that might otherwise work itself out in blisters on the feet.

IF THE TEAPOT BECOMES MUSTY.

If the teapot becomes musty, put a lump of sugar in it before putting it away. It will smell sweet when you want to use it.

TO CLEAN NICKEL PLATE.

To clean nickel plate when it has turned dark on the kitchen range, rub it with a flannel cloth dipped in vinegar.

TO CLEAN NICKEL SILVER ORNAMENTS.

To clean nickel silver ornaments, dip a piece of flannel in ammonia and rub the article.

TO CLEAN WHITE OILCLOTH.

A slice of potato is an excellent thing to clean white oilcloth which has become disfigured by hot cooking utensils.

WHEN WASHING OILCLOTH.

When washing oilcloth a tablespoonful of

painters' size added to a pailful of water will give a glossy surface and make it wear much better than when washed in the ordinary way.

IF YOU PASTE YOUR OILCLOTH ON TO THE KITCHEN TABLE.

If you paste your oilcloth on to the kitchen table with ordinary flour paste, you will find that it will wear twice as long as when tacked on. The oilcloth does not move and wrinkle when wiping it, and so does not crack and soak up water.

No. 1.—TO CLEAN OIL PAINTINGS.

To clean oil paintings, peel a potato and halve it. Rub carefully over the painting with the flat side. Cut a new surface each time the moisture is exhausted. Sponge afterward with clean, tepid water.

No. 2.—TO CLEAN OIL PAINTINGS.

Oil paintings can be cleaned with a pure white soap and water with a little care.

OIL ON CLOTHING.

Oil stains on clothing should be covered with soap and washed with cold water before the garment is sent to the laundry. They may be removed with turpentine.

OLD CORKS ARE USEFUL.

Old corks, not fit for their original purpose, are very useful to make a low fire burn up. A few should be inserted among the embers.

USES FOR OLD COTTON SHEETS.

No new material that can be purchased equals pieces of old cotton sheets and pillow slips for scrubbing and cleaning; and discarded flannel underwear is splendid for cloths for washing paint and windows, for cleaning silver and polishing brasses.

USING OLD LINEN AND COTTON.

Worn napkins cut into squares and oblongs and hemmed serve as doilies on which to lay

fish or fried potatoes or croquettes, or to enwrap baked potatoes.

TO USE OLD OILCLOTH.

A good way to use old oilcloth is to cut it into squares or ovals, make linen covers to fit them, and use for table pads to go under hot dishes.

OLD TABLE LINEN IN ILLNESS.

Old table linen is almost priceless in illness. The thin serviettes are so soft for cold pads and compresses. The worn table cloths make excellent bandages, and if cut up into pieces as required are invaluable for dressing burns. In infectious diseases they can be cut up for tray cloths and covers for table and chest of drawers, while the serviettes can be used for trays and when dirty can be burned.

OLD VELVET IS USEFUL.

A piece of velvet is a fine cleaner for brass and for polishing silverware it is better than chamois. It quickly removes the dust from woodwork and if used to rub the stove after it

has been blackened, it will produce a high polish. There is nothing better to dust a felt hat, and silk dresses and other silk articles should always be dusted with it, for it cleans perfectly without cutting or otherwise injuring the silk.

TO CLEAN OSTRICH FEATHERS.

Make some lukewarm suds with good soap, put them and the feathers into a two-quart fruit jar and shake well, so that the dirt will come out quickly. Then rinse and blue with a feather bluing. Dry over the register. The heat will blow out all the feathers, making them white and fluffy. Curl with a blunt knife or paper cutter.

OVEN CLOTH MADE OF DENIM.

Oven cloths made of denim are very serviceable and no up-to-date housewife should be without them. A good way to make them is to cut two pieces of denim one yard long and six inches wide. Sew the pieces together and turn back the ends about six inches. This will make pockets at each end, into which the hands

may be slipped when removing hot dishes from the oven.

TO CLEAN OXIDIZED SILVER.

To clean oxidized silver, dip a rag into a saturated solution of sulphate of soda, and it will be clean in a few seconds.

No. 1.—CLEANING PAINT.

Dissolve two tablespoonfuls of borax in a little warm water and then add three pints of cold water to this. Wash the paint with this, using a sponge, and dry with a soft chamois or linen cloth. Never put ammonia into water to clean varnished paint. Finger marks are best removed from furniture by washing with water colored with vinegar and then wipe with a dry cloth. When obliged to use soap on paint, rinse it off and wipe dry. Bran is far better than soap for cleaning paint.

No. 2.—CLEANING PAINT.

In cleaning paint, use water to which ammonia has been added until it feels slippery.

If there are stubborn spots on the white paint, I have discovered that a damp cloth on which a little whiting has been sprinkled will succeed better than soap or ammonia.

TO REMOVE PAINT FROM CLOTHING.

To remove paint from clothing, saturate the spots with equal parts of ammonia and turpentine and then wash out in soapsuds.

No. 1.—TO REMOVE PAINT FROM GLASS.

Ammonia applied to glass with a woolen cloth will remove paint.

No. 2.—TO REMOVE PAINT FROM GLASS.

To remove paint from glass, dissolve some washing soda in very hot water and wash the windows with it, using soft flannel, or rub a dime briskly over the stain and then wash with turpentine.

No. 3.—TO REMOVE PAINT FROM GLASS.

When paint sticks to glass it can be removed with hot vinegar.

ODOR OF FRESH PAINT, TO REMOVE.

One can remove the odor of fresh paint from a room by leaving there a pail of water into which several onions have been sliced. Hot weak tea is a good solution for cleaning varnished paint.

PAINT THE PANTRY SHELVES.

Better paint the pantry shelves with white enamel. It is cleaner and more lasting than paper, and it is very attractive.

TO REMOVE PAINT SPOTS FROM SERGE.

To remove paint spots from serge, cover the spots with olive oil or fresh butter to soften, and if the paint is hard, let this remain on for some hours; then apply some chloroform carefully with a clean cloth, taking care not to inhale the fumes. Benzine will answer if you do not care to use chloroform, but it is not quite so effective. Be careful to do the cleaning away from all fire.

PAINT YOUR GAS STOVE.

Paint your gas stove with silver enamel paint twice a year. This keeps it in good condition, saves blacking, and you will not soil the daintiest dress around it.

CLEANING A PANAMA HAT.

Mix two ounces of flowers of sulphur with sufficient water to form a smooth paste. Spread evenly over the hat, and place it in a dark cupboard to dry. Brush off with a stiff whisk. Sulphur is an excellent bleaching medium for Panama hats, as it is not dangerous to handle, and does not injure the straw in any way.

PUT PANS TO SOAK.

Put pans to soak for a few minutes after food has been removed from them. Then they can be cleaned easily. If they are allowed to stand until dry, it will take much longer.

IF A PAN IS BLACKENED OR BURNED.

If a pan is blackened or burned, rub it with

a piece of stale bread dipped in salt. Then wash it in hot water and a little washing soda.

TO CLEAN A WHITE PARASOL.

A soiled white parasol may be cleaned easily and quickly by making a strong suds of good white soap, in which thoroughly wet a white cloth and apply to the parasol while open. Rub well and rinse in clear water. If dried quickly and while open, the result is very satisfactory.

YOUR PASTE WILL NEVER SPOIL.

Your paste will never spoil if you use vinegar instead of water to thin it.

CARE OF PATENT LEATHER SHOES.

Patent leather shoes should be carefully wiped off with a soft cloth when they are removed and then a few drops of olive oil should be rubbed into them. This will keep the leather soft and prevent them cracking.

PATENT LEATHER SHOES, TO CLEAN.

Patent leather shoes are successfully cleaned by removing all dirt, then wiping them with a

soft cloth dipped in milk, polish them with a dry cloth. The milk is valuable in preserving and softening the leather.

No. 1.—TO REMOVE PEACH STAINS.

Apply pure glycerin to table linen or clothes which have been stained with peaches. Let the glycerin remain for a short time and then wash in clear water.

No. 2.—TO REMOVE PEACH STAINS.

Camphor will remove fresh peach stains from linen if followed by soap and water, and also will remove white spots from furniture.

PERSPIRATION STAINS.

Wash in soapsuds and place in the sunshine. If the stain is stubborn wet it with borax and water, or ammonia and water, and spread over a bowl of boiling water. Apply a 10 per cent solution of oxalic acid, drop by drop, until the stain begins to brighten. Dip at once into water. If it does not disappear, repeat the process. After it is removed rinse at once thorough-

ly, using borax or ammonia in the rinse water. This is to neutralize any acid that may linger. Oxalic acid will not injure fabrics, but it is a poison and should not be left around.

No. 1.—TO CLEAN PEWTER.

A shop which makes a specialty of genuine pewter ware says that in cleaning pewter whitening or any good silver powder can be used. The polish should, however, first be mixed with olive oil, machine oil or vaseline, or even kerosene, and then rubbed all over the object. Then wipe it off and polish with the dry powder applied with a soft cloth.

No. 2.—TO CLEAN PEWTER.

To clean pewter, wash the articles with hot water and fine silver sand; then dry and polish them with a leather.

WHEN CLEANING PICTURES.

When cleaning pictures, write a number on the back of each one as you take it from the wall, and write the same number faintly in pen-

oil on the wall space behind it. This saves all trouble of trying to remember just where the pictures belong. Provide yourself with a flat stick, about forty inches long, with notched ends. With it pictures can be lifted, removed, and rehung without the use of ladders or chairs. Onion water, made by boiling five or six onions and adding to this water enough sulphur to give it a decided yellow color, will clean gilt frames. The onion water must be used cold.

TO PROTECT PICTURE FRAMES.

Grate a fresh, raw onion, and apply the juice, full strength, with a soft, clean brush to the gilt frames. This not only removes all former traces of flies, but will prevent their alighting upon the frame or the picture in it.

PICTURES, TO HANG UP.

Pictures hung by a single wire have an annoying way of getting uneven on account of the slipping of the wire on the picture hook. This can sometimes be avoided by first hanging the

picture face to the wall and then turning it around. The single turn this makes in the wire near the hook prevents slipping.

PILE PLUSH, TO RAISE.

To raise pile-plush, sponge with chloroform.

TO REMOVE PITCH AND TURPENTINE STAINS.

To remove pitch and turpentine stains, soften them with alcohol and then sponge off with more alcohol.

PITCH AND PAINT STAINS, TO REMOVE.

Another way to remove pitch and paint stains is to scrape off as much as possible, then soften the spots with olive oil or lard; it may take several hours. Then soak and wash them in turpentine or chloroform.

PITCHER THAT DRIPS.

When there is a tendency for a pitcher to drip, try rubbing ever so little butter under the edge of the lip.

CLEANING PLASTER CASTS.

The following is a simple but effective method for removing the grime which plaster statues, etc., gather in the atmosphere of cities. A thick solution of starch, such as laundresses use, is made and the object is covered with it, care being taken to have it penetrate every crevice. The starch paste is then allowed to dry, whereupon it crumbles away, carrying with it the dirt of the surface of the plaster.

TO CLEAN A POLISHED TABLE THAT HAS BEEN MARRED.

To clean a polished table that has been marred by having had a hot dish placed upon it, rub it with camphorated oil.

POLISHING CUT GLASS.

To give cut glass a very brilliant polish, wash it first in hot suds and then dip in cold water in which a handful of starch has been dissolved. Allow the glasses to drain before rubbing with a dry cloth.

POLISHING PAD FOR SHOES.

A polishing pad of velveteen for polishing black or tan shoes is a great convenience. It should be made of cream-colored velveteen and look like a small pillow about four inches long.

PORCELAIN-LINED KETTLE THAT HAS GONE DRY.

You should never turn cold water into a porcelain-lined kettle or tank that has gone dry, with a hot fire going in the range. The enamel will crack and perhaps peel off if you do. Shut off all heat possible and pour in hot water, as near boiling as you have it, and wait some time before filling it with the cold water.

No. 1.—TO SEPARATE POSTAGE STAMPS.

In damp weather postage stamps sometimes stick together in such a way as to be difficult to separate. When this happens place them on a newspaper in a hot oven for a few moments. As soon as the stamps get hot, the glue dries, and by pressing between the fingers it is readily

broken and the stamps may then be easily separated without the least damage.

No. 2.—TO SEPARATE POSTAGE STAMPS.

If a warm iron is passed over stamps that stick together, they will come apart.

POTS AND KETTLES SHOULD NOT BE
SCRAPED.

Pots and kettles should not be scraped. Use a piece of sandpaper to remove any burned particles or discolorations.

PUTTY KNIFE IN THE KITCHEN.

A putty knife, with its short handle and broad blade, is an indispensable tool in the kitchen. It may be used for turning hash, fritters, and fish. Its broad end is also most useful in scraping pots and pans.

No. 1.—TO REMOVE OLD PUTTY.

Wring out a cloth in boiling water and place it over the putty to be removed. Leave for several minutes. Mix together equal parts of boiling water and turpentine, add a small piece of

soda, and paint the sash. Repeat at short intervals two or three times. Leave to soak for a few hours. The putty will come away quite easily, and leave the sash perfectly clean.

No. 2.—TO REMOVE OLD PUTTY.

To remove old putty with little work and trouble, pass a hot soldering iron over it. This softens it and it is easily removed.

A GOOD SUBSTITUTE FOR A RADIATOR BRUSH.

A good substitute for a radiator brush, which is rather expensive and which is most satisfactory, merely make a bag of outing flannel to fit your carpet beater and finish on the three sides with a narrow, full double ruffle; fasten with a draw string. This cleaner can be used through either the lengthwise or crosswise sections of any radiator.

A RAINCOAT MAY BE KEPT LOOKING LIKE NEW.

A raincoat may be kept looking like new even

in muddy weather. To clean it, first dip it in cold water which has been softened by borax, then lay it out flat and smooth upon the kitchen table, and with a scrubbing brush and good laundry soap give it a hard scrubbing. When the dirt is removed dip it in clean water and rinse it several times; then, without wringing, hang the coat in the air to drip and dry. Hot water, of course, must never be used on a raincoat.

TO CLEAN RAINCOATS.

To clean raincoats, sponge them with a mixture of alcohol and ether, to which a tablespoonful of ammonia to a pint of liquid has been added.

TO MOVE A GAS RANGE OR STOVE.

To move a gas range or stove so that you can lay your carpet or oilcloth, take two round sticks, such as old broom handles, raise the stove, put one stick under each end and over the sticks slide a board. When the sticks and

board are both under the stove, roll the stove and when the back stick comes out from under the board, place it in the front. Keep doing this until you have your stove moved as far as you want it. A crack in the stove may be patched by filling with wood ashes and salt moistened just enough to work well. Smooth down neatly and cover with blacking, and it will prove not only durable, but more sightly, as well as more safe. To put a rusty stove in good condition, dissolve one handful of salt in a pint of vinegar and wash the stove with the solution. Wipe dry with a flannel cloth, and put a few drops of turpentine in the blacking with which you finish off.

THE KITCHEN RANGE SHOULD NEVER BE PACKED FULL OF COAL.

The kitchen range should never be packed full of coal. Two inches of space should be left between the lids of the stove and the coal.

FOR DUSTING THE KITCHEN RANGE.

For dusting the kitchen range nothing is better than a whisk broom covered with a piece of old black stocking. Dip in kerosene oil, then expose to the air until the oil has evaporated. Treated in this way the brush will absorb the dust, not scatter it. After blacking the stove, first rub the hands thoroughly with lard, then wash them with soap and water.

RATTAN, BAMBOO, AND BASKETWORK,
TO CLEAN.

Rattan, bamboo, and basketwork furniture may be thoroughly cleaned by scrubbing with brush and salt water.

RAW LINSEED OIL FOR WIPING OFF
YOUR STOVE.

If you use a cloth dampened in raw linseed oil for wiping off your stove, instead of blacking, you will keep your hands and dishes clean.

CARE OF REFRIGERATOR.

The refrigerator should be washed with water

in which washing soda and borax are dissolved twice a week in cold weather, every other day in warm.

When clean, pieces of charcoal should be laid in the corners to absorb the odors and keep place sweet. Charcoal should be renewed often.

A "close" smell in the refrigerator may be destroyed by ground coffee held therein on a shovel or pan nearly red hot. It should be kept there a few minutes.

Butter and milk should not be kept in the same compartment with strong-smelling articles.

TO REVIVE COLOR.

Dilute household ammonia with water and sponge cotton, linen or woolen to restore the color. Use with care, but increase the strength of the ammonia as it is found the fabric will stand it. A bottle of ammonia should always be on hand.

TO REFRESHEN HAIR RIBBONS.

Wash hair ribbons in warm suds of wool soap,

rinse in cold water and put perfectly smooth on a mirror or marble, satin side down. When dry they will come off like new. Handkerchiefs may also be "ironed" in this way.

TO CLEAN RIBBONS.

A cleaning mixture made especially for ribbons consists of gin one-half pint, honey one-half pound, soft soap one-half pound, water one-eighth pint. Mix together. Scrub the soiled portions of the ribbon with this mixture. Afterward rinse in three clean waters by dipping the ribbon up and down in them to remove all trace of the cleanser. Allow the water to drip away from the ribbons and iron with a fairly hot iron under a clean muslin cloth until it is dry. If it seems too wet for ironing, wipe with a cloth before ironing dry.

TO CLEAN THE DOUBLE ROASTER.

Fill the under pan half full of cold water as soon as the meat and gravy are removed and place on the front of the stove. When dinner

is over and all the other dishes are done, clean the roasting pan in the usual way and you will have no trouble with it.

TO PRESERVE RUBBER TUBING.

To preserve rubber tubing when not in use, coil it neatly in vessels of water carrying a small quantity of common salt in solution.

CARE OF RUGS.

It is a mistake to have fine rugs vigorously beaten on cleaning day. The sharp beating with stick as the rugs hang over a line is very injurious to the fiber, and only thick, cheap rugs, with substantial cotton woven backs, will stand the treatment. Whacking with the end of the stick is especially inimical to silk Oriental rugs or the soft, beautiful woven rugs which are used as couch covers. Such rugs should be well shaken and cleaned with a vacuum cleaner, or a good carpet sweeper, and once a year should be sent to a professional cleaner, who will repair any rents or frayed places in the rug and clean

it by a special process, which brightens the colors without injuring the fiber.

Never wipe off expensive rugs with soap and water or sprinkle wet tea leaves over them—an old-fashioned cleaning day custom, which may have improved the terrible, flowered carpets of the Victorian period by softening and fading their strenuous colors, but which will do more harm than good to the soft tones of a real Oriental rug or an Axminster of modern, subdued coloring. If you must wipe off the rugs with something, use a cloth wrung out in turpentine, but beware of ammonia on soft-hued floor coverings.

TO RENEW A FADED RUG.

Tapestry brussels and similar rugs and carpets may be made like new, if little worn. Buy a few small packages of dye and dissolve in enough water to wet the rug thoroughly. Spread on the grass, or other place outdoors, apply the boiling hot dye with a broom and let it dry. The rug will come out of the process a beautiful

deep color of any shade you wish, and will wear for a long time without fading or rubbing off.

BRIGHTENING RUGS.

Throw coarse salt over rugs and carpets before sweeping them to prevent the dust from rising. This will brighten the color also.

TO KEEP RUGS FROM TURNING UP AT THE ENDS.

To keep rugs from turning up at the ends, sew coat weights at each corner. They also keep them stationary.

RUST, TO REMOVE.

Nothing answers the purpose of a rust remover like rice. A recent stain, or one of long standing, can easily be removed by using it. Boil a cup of rice in two quarts of water for thirty minutes. Let it stand overnight, then strain through a cheesecloth. Soak the ironrust spots in the rice water for four or five hours and then rinse in clear water. No matter how old the stains, they will be effectually removed.

TO REMOVE RUST FROM STEEL.

To remove rust from steel, mix half an ounce of cyanide of potassium, half an ounce of castile soap, one ounce of whiting and water sufficient to form a paste. Wash the steel with a solution of half an ounce of potassium in two ounces of water, then brush over with the paste. This receipt is given by one of the leading steel companies of the country.

TO RESTORE RUSTY BLACK CREPE.

Skimmed milk and water, with a bit of glue in it, made scalding hot, is excellent to restore old rusty black crepe; if well squeezed and pulled dry like muslin, it will look as well as or better than new.

SALT AND ALCOHOL TO REMOVE
GREASE.

Salt dissolved in alcohol will often remove grease spots from clothing.

CLEANING SCHOOL BOOKS.

Dust on books can best be removed by using bread crumbs.

Apply a jelly of castile soap with a brush and rinse in clean water to remove finger marks.

Grease may be removed by putting a blotting paper over the spot covered with talc and apply a hot iron, or apply benzine, putting blotting paper over and under the spot.

Ordinary ink stains may be removed by putting blotting paper under the stain and applying a weak solution of oxalic acid, followed by weak Javelle water. Wash well. To remove marking or indelible ink, use blotting paper; paint the stain first with tincture of iodine and then with a weak solution of potassium cyanide. Use great care in handling the latter.

SCORCH, TO REMOVE.

This can be removed if the threads are uninjured. Extract the juice of two onions, add one cup of vinegar, two ounces of fuller's earth and half an ounce of soap. Boil, spread over

the scorched surface. Let it dry in the sun. Wash out thoroughly.

THE BEST SCRAP BASKETS.

The best scrap baskets are the simplest ones, closely woven and free from ribbons or other decorations.

WHEN A SCREW BECOMES LOOSE.

When a screw becomes loose, remove it and fill the hole with bits of sponge packed in tightly. Then replace the screw and it will hold as firmly as ever.

CLEANING JAPANESE SCUTTLE.

Dust the scuttle thoroughly. Mix a little whiting and vinegar to a paste. Rub it on with a piece of rug. Wipe with a soft cloth, and polish with a dry leather.

SEDIMENT IN CHINA AND EARTHENWARE.

In order to remove the disfiguring sediment which hard water is apt to leave upon china and earthenware pitchers in daily use, you should

put into the vessel a good-sized lump of salt and a cup of vinegar and let it stand for half a day. Wash well with warm water and good soap at the end of that time and you will find the sediment comes off easily.

TO SET COLORS.

When washing and rinsing colored materials, add a tablespoonful of Epsom salts to each gallon of water, and even the most delicate shades will neither fade nor run. Serge and similar materials which have been dyed black can be safely washed in this way without any risk of the dye running. Oil of eucalyptus sponged gently on the spot will remove grease or oil stains from delicate fabrics.

TO SET DELICATE COLORS.

To set delicate colors in an embroidered handkerchief, soak ten minutes previous to washing in a pail of tepid water, in which a dessertspoonful of turpentine has been stirred.

TO SET COLORS IN NEW COTTON FABRICS.

To set colors in new cotton fabrics, dissolve one ounce of sugar of lead in eight quarts of water, and soak articles in it overnight.

SEWING MACHINE CLEANING.

When a sewing machine works heavily, take out the thread and oil every part of the machine thoroughly with kerosene. Work briskly for some minutes, so that the kerosene may do its work of loosening all the old oil and grime, and then wipe carefully with a soft, old duster.

When the kerosene has been removed, oil the machine again with lubricating machine oil, and it will then work perfectly. Be sure and use the lubricating oil after using the kerosene.

SEWING MACHINE TREAD, TO MAKE IT MORE COMFORTABLE.

On the tread of your sewing machine fasten a piece of brussels carpet. You will find it much more comfortable and easy to run.

TO IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF SHABBY LEATHER BAGS.

To improve the appearance of shabby leather bags, rub them over with the well beaten white of an egg, and then polish with beeswax and turpentine. The final rubbing should be done with a soft, clean cloth.

SHALLOW SHELVES FOR THE PANTRY.

Shallow shelves are better for the pantry than deep ones. With the deep shelves one thing gets pushed behind another, and time is often lost looking for the hidden article. A shelf that is six inches wide will accommodate, with few exceptions, any can, carton, or container you may keep in the pantry, and everything is always in view of the worker.

TO MAKE SHIRTS WEAR LONGER.

A small piece of muslin sewed inside the shirt to collar band and shoulder seam will protect the garment from wear of stiff collars against the collar-bone. The front of the piece of mus-

lin should be left loose so that it will not interfere with laundering.

MORE COMFORTABLE SHOES.

Paste a round piece of black velvet inside your low-cut shoes when they begin to stretch, and you will not be bothered with them slipping up and down.

TO PREVENT SHRINKING.

Paint wooden pails and tubs with glycerin to prevent shrinking.

TO CLEAN BLACK SILK.

To clean black silk, sponge with household ammonia and press while damp on the wrong side of the goods.

TO TEST SILK SAMPLE.

To learn whether the silk you think of buying for a dress will wear well, or whether it will split or crack, touch a lighted match to a piece of it. If it burns, but keeps its shape, you may know it is weighted with minerals and will crack in the wearing. If it melts down in burning

and runs together in a puffy mass, it is pure and should wear well.

TO TEST SILK AND WOOL.

A small sample boiled in a strong solution of caustic soda is a perfect test for wool or worsted fabric. When boiling, a porcelain lined vessel is absolutely necessary. The caustic soda eats out all the animal matter of the fabric, leaving the vegetable fiber untouched and thus showing the proportion of wool in the goods and the amount of cotton threads. If the cloth is entirely eaten away it is evident it was all wool.

No. 1.—CLEANING SILVER.

A simple and efficacious way of cleaning silver is to make a solution of baking soda and salt, allowing a teaspoonful of each to a quart of water. Put this solution in an aluminum pan or kettle and, when it boils, drop the silver in for an instant. Have another pan of hot water handy for rinsing purposes. On taking the silver from the soda mixture, drop it in the rins-

ing water, remove, and wipe dry. No further polishing will be necessary and all tarnish and stains will have disappeared.

No. 2.—CLEANING SILVER.

Precipitated chalk is excellent for cleaning tarnished silver. Place a little in a saucer and add just enough liquid ammonia to moisten it. Rub this lightly over the silver, and the stains will quickly disappear. Then wash in hot suds, dry carefully, and polish with a clean chamois leather.

SILVER HINTS.

If table silver is placed in hot soapsuds immediately after being used and dried with a soft cloth, much of the work of polishing will be saved.

SILVER NOT TO TURN DARK.

A few pieces of gun camphor kept in the boxes in which silver is packed in wrappings will prevent its turning dark.

TO MAKE A SILVER POLISH.

To make a silver polish, take one pound of whiting, pour over it a pint of boiling water, and when cold add one ounce of ammonia. This will keep bottled or in a glass for a long time.

TO KEEP SILVER BRIGHT.

Place in a cardboard box a layer of ordinary flour, then lay the forks and spoons upon it, and cover thickly with flour. They will remain quite bright for any length of time.

A GOOD DISINFECTANT FOR A SINK.

A good disinfectant for a sink is to put two tablespoonfuls of soda and a teaspoonful of ammonia in one gallon of boiling water. Pour this down the sink.

ENAMELED SINK, TO CLEAN.

Coal oil will clean badly discolored enameled sinks or bathtubs, and also will remove fresh paint stains.

SINK, TO CLEAN AND SWEETEN.

Nothing will clean and sweeten a sink better than a strong solution or washing soda, and the refrigerator likewise should frequently be washed with this.

TO PRESS SKIRTS.

To press skirts always lay a damp cotton cloth over the material, so that it will not be touched by the iron. This prevents the material from becoming shiny.

TO REMOVE SMOKE MARKS ON WALLS.

To remove smoke marks on walls and ceilings, make a paste of starch and water and spread it on with a piece of flannel. Allow it to dry and then dust it off with a soft brush.

TO MAKE SOAP JELLY.

To make soap jelly, so often recommended in the cleaning of delicate things, melt any good laundry soap in water over a hot fire until it becomes liquid. When cold it will form a jelly,

and should be molded in small jars for use at various times when required.

SOAP MAKING EASY.

There is always an accumulation of grease which can not be used for cooking purposes. I have a five-pound pail which I keep just for my soap grease, and into this I strain all the grease which I do not wish to use otherwise.

I strain it so that it may be perfectly clean always and free from sediment.

When the pail is full I collect my other ingredients; one-half can of lye, one tablespoonful of borax, one quart of cold water.

Dissolve the lye in cold water, using a large dishpan, and add the borax. The lye makes the water hot, and while it is cooling melt the grease in another large pan, slowly and without getting it too hot.

When the water is cool and the grease melted, pour together and stir until thoroughly mixed, then pour into a large dripping pan and when cool cut into cakes. It needs to stand for about

two weeks to become sufficiently hard, so that it will not dissolve too rapidly when put into water.

Now, this is the soap I use for my furniture cleaning. You look surprised? Well, I literally wash my furniture; yes, even my finest old mahogany. I do not make a heavy suds, just enough soap to make the water bluish; then I wring a cheesecloth out of this, making it almost dry, and rub briskly a section of wood.

Do not make the mistake of washing the whole surface before polishing with the damp chamois, for that will make streaks.

TO PREVENT THE ODOR OF SOAP.

The odor of soap that often clings to clothes is not at all desirable. A lump of orris root put in the rinsing water for fine pieces such as handkerchiefs, lingerie, and blouses will give a delicate violet perfume more permanent than that of the ordinary sachet.

SOILED SPOTS MAY BE REMOVED FROM WHITE SILK.

Soiled spots may be removed from white silk or satin by rubbing them with a fine flannel cloth dipped in a little alcohol or ether.

TO TAKE PROPER CARE OF SPONGES.

To take proper care of sponges, wash them in warm water in which a small quantity of tartaric acid has been dissolved. This will keep them soft and in good color. Be careful not to use too much tartaric acid, or it will spoil the sponges.

TO BLEACH SPONGES.

To bleach sponges, soak them in a solution of one ounce of chloride of lime and a half ounce of tartaric acid to the gallon of water.

TO SPONGE A SILK DRESS.

Water in which potatoes have been boiled is the best thing with which to sponge and revive a silk dress.

WHEN YOU SPONGE CLOTHES.

The troublesome rings which often appear on clothes after they have been sponged with gasoline or naphtha can be avoided by adding a couple of tablespoonfuls of table salt to the cleansing fluid.

SPOTS OF ICE CREAM ON A SILK DRESS. •

Spots of ice cream on a silk dress should be sponged carefully with clear warm water to dissolve the sugar, then use naphtha or ether for the grease. Have a soft pad of absorbent cotton under the spot and rub with the naphtha in an ever-widening circle, so that no mark will be left. Use just enough of the chemical to dampen the silk, not to make it sopping wet.

FOR SPOTS ON FURNITURE.

Make a dressing of one part of spirits of turpentine and three parts of linseed oil, and shake thoroughly before using. Rub on briskly to remove spots, and rub the wood dry with a piece of clean flannel.

SPOTTED GLOVES.

Many a girl has had pairs of kid gloves ruined simply because she did not know how to save them.

If gloves spotted by rain or other water are allowed to dry there is no hope for them.

They are irreparably ruined.

But, if while they are still damp, they are kept on the hands and rubbed gently with a damp cloth, the spots will disappear.

There is no use trying gasoline, benzine, or anything else for water spots. A cloth dampened in the plain water, but not wet, is the remedy.

STAINED CHINA.

Your cups stain probably because you drink very strong tea. The best way of removing these unsightly marks is to rub them with a moistened cloth dipped in salt. Powdered bath-brick will remove those of long standing which will not yield to the salt treatment.

TO REMOVE STAINS.

To remove stains, tie securely a tablespoonful of cream of tartar in the part of the garment that is stained, then boil it in the usual manner.

STAINS ON BAKING DISHES.

Powdered bath brick rubbed on with a damp cloth will burn stains from baking dishes.

TO REMOVE CHOCOLATE STAINS.

To remove chocolate stains from white dresses or table linen, sprinkle the stain thickly with borax, place a saucer beneath it and pour on just enough water to moisten. Leave for several hours and then wash.

STAINS ON FLANNELS.

Stains on flannels may be removed by applying yolks of eggs and glycerin in equal quantities. Leave for half an hour and then wash out.

TO REMOVE GRASS STAIN FROM
WHITE MATERIAL.

To remove grass stain from white material, wet with alcohol and rinse in clear water.

KEROSENE FOR GRASS STAINS.

Any linen article that has become grass stained should be saturated with kerosene and then washed in very hot water with plenty of soap.

TO REMOVE OBSTINATE GRASS STAINS.

To remove obstinate grass stains, cover the stains with common cooking molasses and let it stand for two or three hours, then wash out in luke warm water.

TO REMOVE IODINE STAINS.

To remove tincture of iodine stains from your skin or clothing strong ammonia water is excellent.

MACHINE OIL STAINS.

Yellow machine oil stains on white material may be removed by rubbing the spot with a cloth wet with ammonia before using soap.

STAINS ON MIRROR GLASSES.

Stains on mirror glasses can be removed with

a flannel cloth dampened with spirits of camphor.

TO REMOVE NAIL STAINS FROM WOOD.

To remove nail stains from wood, scrub the stains with a solution of oxalic acid, half a pint of acid to a quart of boiling water.

OVERCOAT COLLAR STAINS, TO REMOVE.

A cloth dipped in ammonia will often remove stains from the collar of an overcoat.

STAINS RESULTING FROM POTATO PARINGS.

Lemon juice is invaluable in removing stains resulting from potato paring or fruit picking. First dip the fingers in salt, and then apply the lemon.

TO REMOVE SOOT STAINS.

To remove soot stains, rub with dry salt or dry cornmeal before washing. Or saturate the spot with ether and put a cup over it to prevent evaporation until the stain disappears.

TABLECLOTH AND NAPKIN STAINS.

Remove stains and grease from tablecloths and napkins as follows:

Machine oil—Clean with gasoline. Wash with white soap and cold water.

Paint stains—Soak in turpentine until soft, then swab with alcohol.

Ice cream—Soak in clear cold water for an hour.

Fruit stains—Soak fresh stains in cold water half an hour, pour boiling water through them, dry quickly. If above fails use javelle water. Cover spots with tomato juice and salt. Leave in bright sunshine with a bright tin plate underneath. Cover spots with salt and vinegar. Leave two hours in sun. Cut an apple in halves, lay stain over cut surface; leave in sunshine. This must be followed by thoroughly washing in cold water to avoid apple stain.

Acid discolorations—Use ammonia, followed with alcohol and water dabbed on lightly.

Wine stains—Wet with alcohol or whisky;

soak in cold water one hour. Pour boiling water through them, holding cloth taut; dry before doing up.

Ink stains—Wet stains first with boiling water; dip in oxalic acid solution; hold stain in steam of kettle for several minutes; wash thoroughly in clear very hot water.

STEAMING VELVET.

Instead of using a flatiron to steam velvet, try a soapstone and see how much better and smoother the velvet will be.

TO CLEAN STEEL KNIVES.

A large cork moistened and dipped in powdered bath brick will clean steel knives used in the kitchen.

TO KEEP STOPPERS FROM STICKING.

A very little glycerin smeared around the glass stoppers of bottles will keep them from sticking for a long time.

STOVE WISDOM.

In this era of the gas range, the city cook who

moves into a rural district where there is no gas often is at a loss to know how to manage the coal stove properly. Indeed, many persons who have always used a coal stove do not know how to manage it properly.

In the first place you should familiarize yourself thoroughly with the use of the various draughts and dampers.

DRAUGHTS AND DAMPERS.

Near the top of any coal or wood stove or range is a damper which opens a direct passage into the pipe; and in the handling of this damper lies the control of your coal bill. When this is carelessly managed the heat from tons of coal will be wasted through the chimney. Under the fire box is the slide which supplies the necessary fresh air and the oven damper controls the heated air, turning it away from the pipe. The best way to economize heat is to let the fire get a good start and then close the draughts tightly until the heat is needed.

In building a fire first see that all ashes are

removed from the stove; then close all the draughts and lay small pieces of kindling wood and twisted paper in the firebox; sprinkle a little coal over the top, open the draughts and damper and light the paper. Add coal in small amounts as the fire burns down.

HEAT, TO BE SENT AROUND THE OVEN.

After the fire is well started turn the oven dampers so that the heat will be sent around the ovens and close the chimney damper.

KIND OF FUEL TO USE.

Anthracite coal is difficult to kindle, but it is the cleanest and the most economical in spite of its higher cost, as it gives out an intense heat with little flame. However, if the cost is too high, a free-burning variety of soft coal can be used. Pea coal and coke, mixed, is a satisfactory fuel.

BLACKBOARD ERASER FOR THE STOVE.

The trial that many housewives have in keeping the kitchen range clean may be lightened by

using a blackboard eraser to rub over the stove daily.

TO BLACKEN RUSTY STOVE.

To blacken rusty stoves, dissolve a handful of salt in a pint of vinegar and wash the stove with the solution. Wipe dry with a flannel cloth and then put a few drops of turpentine in the blacking with which you finish off.

SELECTING A RANGE.

Select a range that is simple in construction and be sure that you thoroughly understand its management before purchasing. The ash box should be large, the dampers easy to operate, and all parts of the range so designed that they are easy to clean.

TO SECURE SHINING RESULTS.

To secure a shining result, wipe off the stove with vinegar before putting polish on it.

STEEL RANGE WITH HOOD IS MOST DESIRABLE.

A steel range with a hood is the most desirable.

The hood collects the odors of cooking and the excessive heat that otherwise passes out into the kitchen and sends them up the chimney.

STOVE BLACKING AND CLEAN HANDS.

Before blacking a stove first rub the hands with vaseline, then put on a mit, glove, or old stocking, and use a paint brush for applying the blacking and polishing brush to polish. Mix soft soap with blacking. When the work is finished clean your hands with soap, water, a little kerosene, and a nailbrush.

TO ECONOMIZE ON STOVE POLISH.

To economize on stove polish and also to save labor in polishing the stove, mix the polishing paste with dry soap powder. Any sort of soap powder answers the purpose, and the shine obtained is far better than when the polish alone is used.

TO KEEP THE STOVE CLEAN.

To keep the stove clean, rub off all grease with newspaper while the stove is still hot.

When the stove needs polishing, use a paint brush and thus avoid getting one's hands soiled. You can also reach the small crevices more readily with the brush. When taking up ashes if you dampen a newspaper and cover the ash pail you will not be troubled with the ashes falling over everything.

MICA IN STOVES, WHEN SMOKED.

Mica in stoves, when smoked, is readily cleaned by taking it out and thoroughly washing with vinegar a little diluted. If the black does not come off at once, let it soak a little.

THE STOVE FRONT CAN BE PAINTED.

The stove front can be painted with black stove enamel instead of blacking it daily.

LESS SOOT WILL COLLECT.

If a strong brine of salt and water is thrown over the coals, less soot will collect in the flues and chimneys. The fire, too, will burn clear and bright.

TO KEEP THE FIRE GOING.

To keep the fire going, shake down the ashes, put in more coal and open the slide over the coal to let in more air and check the force of the fire. The chimney damper always should be opened when fresh coal is put on and the ashes should be thoroughly shaken down beforehand.

WASTE OF FUEL.

Filling the firebox to the top means a waste of fuel; the draught is lessened and the coal wasted. Fresh coal should be added before the coals turn white, and a little fuel added frequently is the best way of keeping up a fire that must be practically in continual use.

TO PREVENT BLACK STOCKINGS FADING.

To prevent black stockings fading, or the dye running from them, wash them in strong salt water when washing them for the first time, then dry them and wash again in another solution, finishing in clear water.

THE SUMMER CURTAINS.

Chintz, cretonne, muslin, scrim, and net curtains may all be done up at home by a tolerably efficient laundress, but lace curtains are a more difficult matter—a point to remember when buying.

TO RENOVATE TAFFETA.

To renovate taffeta that has become wrinkled and lacking in crispness, lay it over an ironing board and go over it with alcohol and hang it in the air to dry.

TAM-O'-SHANTER, NOT TO SHRINK.

To prevent tam-o'-shanter that has to be washed from shrinking, dry it over a dinner plate.

TO CLEAN TARNISHED GOLD LACE.

Powdered rock ammonia applied with a soft brush will clean tarnished gold lace and embroidery.

TAR MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE HANDS.

Tar may be removed from the hands by rub-

bing with the outside of fresh orange or lemon peel and drying immediately. The volatile oils dissolve tar so that it can be rubbed off.

CLEANING TATTING.

Almost everyone who has tried to clean tating by washing it knows it is almost impossible to restore the picots to their natural shape in this way. A better way is to soak the tating in gasoline and while they are wet dust all the pieces with cornstarch. Wrap them in a clean towel and leave them for several hours. Beat the towel lightly, lift out the lace and shake it free of starch. Press the picots into shape and iron lightly on the wrong side.

TEA AND CHOCOLATE STAINS.

Sprinkle with borax and soak in cold water. Glycerin will aid in removing tea stains. Soak the spot in glycerin, then wash.

TEA AND COFFEE STAINS.

When next potatoes are boiled, strain the water and save it. Then pour the water into

a clean white bowl and dip the stained part of the linen into it. Allow the linen to stand in the water until the spots disappear. Then launder the linen as usual.

If the potato water fails to take the stains out, try ammonia or spirits of wine. Give the spots a liberal dose of either, and rub out well. Rinse very carefully before putting into the wash.

When the piece has gone through the various tubbings, bluing, etc., and has been ironed, you will find there is no trace of the ugly spots.

TEA AND COFFEE STAINS OF LONG STANDING.

To take tea and coffee stains of long standing out of a fabric, apply a mixture composed of the yolk of an egg stirred in a cup of tepid water, to which a few drops of glycerin have been added. Rub the mixture well into the stain, then wash thoroughly with warm water.

TO CLEAN TENNIS BALLS.

Mix pipe-clay with enough water to form a

smooth paste; add to this a melted tallow candle and allow it to cool. Then brush all the dust off the balls, take a lump of the pipe-clay tallow mixture and dissolve it in cold water to the consistency of cream. Apply to the balls with a sponge, let dry and wipe off gently.

No. 1.—TO CLEAN TINWARE.

To clean tinware dampen a cloth, dip it in common soda and rub the ware briskly, after which wipe dry.

No. 2.—TO CLEAN TINWARE.

Tinware may be cleaned with very little trouble by using dry flour applied with a piece of newspaper.

VASELINE SPOTS, TO TAKE OUT.

Kerosene will take vaseline spots out, if it is applied before the spots have been washed.

VASES HAVING LONG NECKS, TO CLEAN.

Vases having long necks can be cleaned by filling them with clear hot water and small bits

of paper. Vigorously shaken, the paper washes away grime and sediment.

TO CLEAN VARNISHED FURNITURE.

One of the best ways to clean varnished furniture (when there are no scratches deeper than the varnish on it) is to wash it with warm suds, or clean it with gasoline or turpentine. Polish with turpentine and crude oil, equal parts, or equal parts of alcohol, olive oil, and vinegar.

TO WASH VARNISHED PAPER.

To wash varnished wall paper, use two tablespoonfuls of liquid ammonia to about half a pailful of warm water, applied with a soft flannel or sponge. Then wipe the wall down with a chamois leather, wrung out of clean water to which has been added two tablespoonfuls of turpentine. The turpentine gives a beautiful polish to the paper.

TO WASH VARNISHED WOOD.

To wash varnish, steep some tea leaves in water for an hour, then strain them out and use

the liquid for washing the varnished wood. This decoction is superior to soap and water—it gives the woodwork a cleaner, fresher look.

TO REMOVE VARNISH STAINS ON CLOTH.

To remove varnish stains on cloth, soak with alcohol and rub with a clean cloth. If the color is affected, sponge with chloroform, unless the color is blue, in which case use vinegar.

WHEN BURNING VEGETABLE REFUSE.

When burning vegetable refuse in stove or furnace, put a handful of salt into the fire with it and there will be no unpleasant odor.

THE CARE OF VEILS.

Put the veil on carefully, to keep it from tearing. The sharp bits of straw around the edge of the hat brim often damage a veil irreparably at the first wearing. But a little care in putting it on will do away with this.

Never push a veil up from the face and then remove the hat. The temptation then is to leave

the veil on the hat. Instead, remove the veil first and carefully pull it into shape. Then roll it or fold it. Perhaps the best way is to roll it, holding one side of it in each hand and stretching it sidewise as you roll.

Pasteboard cylinders can be used to hold veils, and these help to keep them smooth and fresh.

Be especially careful to fold or roll the veil immediately on coming into the house on a rainy or damp day, as the dampness softens the veil.

CLEANING VEILS.

To clean any kind of veil, let lie in alcohol for a short time, then souse them up and down until all the dirt is out. Avoid wringing, as it is liable to tear the mesh. Pat the fluid out, shake well and dry. The veil will look as good as new after this treatment.

TO REVCATE VELVET BOWS.

If you wish to freshen crushed velvet bows without untying them, heat a curling iron, cover it with a damp cloth and insert in the loops of

the bow, opening the curler wide. The steam causes the nap to rise, and after brushing with a soft whisk the bows will look as well as when they were new.

VELVET, TO CLEAN.

Velvet can be cleaned by rubbing with a cloth that has been dipped in powdered magnesia. Shake occasionally and when entirely gone over brush with rather a stiff brush.

TO FRESHEN VELVET.

The usual way to steam velvet is over a hot flatiron, covered with a wet cloth. Another way is to dampen evenly the back of the velvet and use no cloth, or it may be held before the spout of a kettle in the steam. The best way, however, is to put a large wet cloth upon the top of the range or stove, that is not hot but just warm, and lay the velvet upon this. In this way the velvet can lie there and steam thoroughly, and so get the pile well raised without steaming the hands and face. To steam more slowly

and keep the cloth from drying too soon, put a stout paper beneath it.

TO CLEAN A VIOLIN.

To clean a violin, wash it very carefully with soap and water, seeing to it that not a drop runs inside, or dip a piece of soft silk in paraffin oil and rub the violin with it. The interior of the violin should be cleaned with dry rice.

WAGON GREASE.

Soften with lard or oil and wash in soap and water.

GREASE ON WALL PAPER.

Place a piece of blotting paper over the spot and use a warm iron to press it with. The grease should be absorbed by the blotting paper. Change it until all grease is gone.

FOR WALL PAPER PATCHES.

When the wall paper chances to need a patch, and the new paper is conspicuously bright compared with the old, hang the new piece in the sunshine, watch closely and you will find that it

will soon sun-tone to match the old paper. You may then patch your wall and the patch will be hardly noticeable.

HOW TO CLEAN WALL PAPER.

Ordinary wall paper may be cleaned with dough, or rubbed with a soft, clean flannel dipped in fine oatmeal.

WASH BOILER, NOT TO RUST.

To prevent the wash boiler from rusting, wipe dry after using and then rub well with soap before putting it away.

WASH CLOTH, TO MAKE.

A nice wash cloth is made from six or eight thicknesses of white mosquito netting. White mercerized cotton can be quickly put around the edge in button-hole stitch with a crochet hook.

WASHING FLOORS.

If two pieces of soft cloth are folded in several thicknesses and placed over the knees, under the stockings, the relief experienced when wash-

ing floors will be great. Some women attach a long handle to the scrub brush and use this brush for scrubbing and a mop for rinsing the floor, and in this way are saved the discomfort of kneeling.

WHEN WASHING HAIR.

To prevent tangling, when washing the hair, at the last rinsing float the hair out straight in the water, then comb it out while dripping, and it will not tangle and pull out as it does when dried before combing.

WASHING KNITTED GLOVES.

First, one should make a very warm soapy lather, and in another basin prepare the rinsing water of the same temperature, having a large teaspoonful of glycerin mixed in it. Immerse the gloves in the soapy water; do not rub them, but squeeze the water through several times, then squeeze out as much as possible and rinse through the other water. Again squeeze as dry

as possible, pull the fingers into shape and hang the glove before the fire to dry.

TO WASH SILK GLOVES.

Wash white silk gloves in warm soapsuds, rinse and hang in a dark room to dry. It is the light which turns them yellow. The best time to wash them is at night. They will then be dry by morning and white as when new.

WASHING SODA, NOT TO USE ON CHINA.

Washing soda should not be used on china, as it will take off the gilt. Try clear, hot water, but not hot enough to crack the china.

EASILY MADE WASTE BASKET.

Cut a strip of linoleum about fourteen inches wide and thirty-five inches long, first marking it with a pencil and yardstick to get the lines straight. With a punch make holes along one side edge and both end edges. Cut a disk of wood for the bottom. Lace the side with leather strips or stout brown ribbon, and the top, over

and over for a binding. Tack the linoleum to the wooden bottom with brass-headed tacks.

WATERPROOF APRONS.

Waterproof aprons are useful sometimes and may be made from an old raincoat.

TO WATERPROOF SUIT CASES.

Suit cases and handbags of straw matting or similar material can be made waterproof and improved in appearance and usefulness by giving them a coat of cheap wagon varnish. This causes them to shed water, and should be done once a year. A good wetting usually spoils the unvarnished matting cases.

WHALEBONE RENEWED.

Bent whalebones can be straightened by soaking them in boiling water for a few moments and then ironing them straight.

WHITE COQUE, MARABOU, ETC., TO CLEAN.

White coque, marabou, and ostrich feathers may be cleaned in hot soapsuds, which will re-

store them to their original pure, fresh whiteness. Fill a bowl with hot water and make the suds with some good white soap. Shake the feathers up and down many times, then drain off the water and repeat the process again, using hot, soapy water. After several changes rinse the feathers in clear hot water, again draining off and renewing the water frequently. Do not be dismayed at the bedraggled look of the feathers after their bath. Remember that the fowl from which they were plucked was accustomed to the rain and that the feathers will return to their former beauty as soon as dry. The fluffiness will come back when the feathers have been thoroughly heated, for they must be dried by being held over a fire, stove, register, or steam radiator. They must be as carefully and constantly shaken while drying as while being washed.

No. 1.—CLEANING WHITE FELT HATS.

To clean a white felt hat, make a paste of pulverized pipe-clay and water, spread it on

the hat and let it dry. When dry, brush off with a whisk broom.

NO. 2.—CLEANING WHITE FELT HATS.

To clean them, brush them thoroughly with a soft clean brush; then take some flour which has been dried in a slow oven, mix it with bread crumbs and rub this into the felt with your hands. When all marks have disappeared, brush the hat briskly.

WHITE GLOVES, TO CLEAN.

A mixture of finely powdered fuller's earth and alum is excellent for cleaning white gloves. It should be rubbed in well, then brushed off and the gloves sprinkled with dry bran and whitening.

WHITE PAPER ON REFRIGERATOR SHELVES.

Keep white paper on each shelf of the refrigerator. It gives a clean appearance and keeps things from dropping on the shelf below.

TO CLEAN WHITE VESTS.

To clean white vests, use block magnesia, rubbing it in well and freely. Put the vest in a drawer for several days; then beat and brush it.

TO PREVENT WHITEWASH FROM RUBBING OFF.

To prevent whitewash from rubbing off, add alum to it in proportion to one ounce of alum to every pound of whitewash.

TO CLEAN WHITE WOODWORK.

Use whiting and water and a soft cloth. This does not destroy the paint as a more vigorous cleanser does. But if there are outside white window sills to be cleaned, and they are very much soiled by exposure to the weather, use ammonia and water. Be careful in using it, as it removes some of the paint as well as the dirt.

TO CLEANSE ARTICLES MADE OF
WHITE ZEPHYR.

To cleanse articles made of white zephyr, rub

in flour and magnesia, changing often. Shake off the mixture and hang article in the sun.

WINDOWS IN WINTER.

Cold days window cleaning is a hard task at best, and sometimes seems useless, for as soon as the windows are cleaned a rain or snow storm undoes all the work. Moisten a cloth with denatured alcohol, going over the window quickly with this and then polishing with a dry cloth. The glass is brilliant, never cloudy, and one pint of alcohol, which is very cheap, will do twenty windows.

TO CLEAN WINDOWS.

To clean windows satisfactorily, a little turpentine dissolved in warm water is the best thing to use.

WINDOW WASHING.

Wash windows with a good scouring soap, rinse and then rub with a flannel cloth wet in vinegar. Dry thoroughly with an old stocking leg. The vinegar gives a splendid polish and

the stocking will not leave lint. Hot vinegar will remove paint from windows.

TO CLEAN WIRE SCREENS.

To clean wire screens, dampen cotton cloth with kerosene and rub both sides. This also preserves the wire and keeps the flies away, as they do not like the odor.

TO CLEAN WOODWORK.

Vinegar is excellent for cleaning woodwork. Dampen a flannel cloth with it, and when the cloth becomes soiled, wash it out in clear water, and then dip it again in the vinegar and proceed with the work.

TO REMOVE WRINKLES FROM A GARMENT.

To remove wrinkles from a garment, hang it in the bathroom, over the tub, close the windows and door, and turn on the hot water; let it remain there for two or three hours, then hang out in the fresh air.

TO REMOVE STAINS FROM ZINC
TABLES.

To remove stains from the tops of zinc kitchen tables, use a cloth dipped in vinegar.

TO BRIGHTEN ZINC.

To brighten zinc, rub it with soft soap and sand.

Index.

Household Wisdom.	Page		Page
Acid on clothes, to prevent damage by -----	3	Bedsprings, to clean	13
Ailing plants -----	3	Birthingstone, month, stone and meaning -----	13
Ants killed by gas -----	3	Bleach cotton goods	14
Ants destroyed or driven away -----	4	Blood stains, to remove -----	14
Asbestos pad for table -----	6	Blouse (white), to clean -----	15
Autumn leaves, to preserve, No. 1. -	7	Blue, not to fade -	15
Autumn leaves, to preserve, No. 2. -	7	Bottles, to clean --	15
Axle grease, to remove -----	7	Bottle labels, to remove -----	15
Bake pans, sauce-pans, etc., need an extra bath ---	8	Bottom cellar step should be painted	16
Bath bag that is refreshing -----	8	Bran, for cleaning-	16
Bath, a kitten ----	9	Brass, to clean ---	16
Bathtub, enameled or porcelain, to clean -----	9	Brass, Flowerpots, to clean -----	17
Bedbugs, to exterminate -----	9	Brass that is very discolored -----	17
Bedmaking -----	12	Brass lamp bowls, to clean -----	17
		Brass that has been exposed to the weather -----	17
		Brass, to clean quickly and economically -----	18

Bride's bouquet, to preserve -----	18	Carpet or rug, to sweep -----	24
Bronze, to clean --	18	Carpet sweeper, to clean -----	24
Bronze ornaments, to clean -----	19	Cayenne pepper, enemy of mice --	25
Bronze statuary, to clean -----	19	Cement, homemade	25
Brooms, to keep in proper shape ---	19	Chamois skins, to clean -----	27
Brooms, to last longer -----	19	Chigger and a weapon to com- bat him -----	28
Brooms, brushes, and mops can be hung up -----	20	Chimneys (lamp), to toughen ----	29
Brown leather bags, to polish -----	20	China bric-a-brac, dusting -----	29
Brushes, to clean --	20	Clocks, care of ---	29
Brushing a room --	20	Clocks, to clean --	29
Campfire remnants--	21	Clocks with lumi- nous hands ----	30
Candle shades made to suit the occa- sion -----	21	Clocks for traveling	30
Candles too big for the holder -----	22	Closetless bedroom--	31
Carpet cleaning ---	22	Clothes pins and clotheslines, to preserve -----	32
Carpets (shabby), to brighten ----	23	Cockroaches, to ex- terminate -----	32
Carpets, grease spots on -----	24	Cockroaches, to trap	33
Carpet, grease or oil spilled on -----	24	Coffee and fruit stains, to remove	34
		Coffee stains on cups and saucers	34

INDEX.

249

Cold box, to make_	34	Crocheting, hint --	42
Color, restoring to cotton that has faded -----	36	Cruets, to keep clean -----	42
Fabrics colored with aniline dyes	36	Cuff protector ----	42
Combs, to last ----	36	Cushion, for travel- ing -----	43
Cooking utensils, to clean -----	37	Decorate candles --	43
Copper, easily cleaned -----	37	Dining room furni- ture -----	43
Copper cooking ves- sels, to clean ---	37	Dish mops can be used for other purposes -----	44
Corks in the house_	37	Dish washing sug- gestions -----	44
Corks that are too large -----	38	Doorsteps, to whiten -----	45
Corks can be made airtight -----	38	Dripping candles --	45
Corks a substitute for glass stopper	38	Drooping ferns, to revive -----	46
Corks for scouring kitchen knives --	39	Dry sand, uses of -	47
Corroded water pitchers, to clean	39	Dusting can be made easier ----	47
Cotton filling that is damp -----	39	Dyes made at home	48
Cotton flannel broom bag, to make -----	40	Home dyed fabrics	48
Cracked wall or ceiling, to repair	40	Natural dyes ----	49
Crepe paper, uses of -----	41	Treasures from nat- ure -----	50
		Gold green -----	50
		Green -----	51
		Iron buff -----	51
		Miscellaneous colors	52
		Purple -----	52
		Walnut dye -----	52

Yellow -----	53	Faded silk, to re-	
Yellow brown ----	54	store -----	68
Commercial dyes --	55	Feathers, to trans-	
Dyeing cotton or		fer -----	68
mixed goods ---	56	Fern, to nourish --	68
Woolen goods ----	57	Fiber rugs (col-	
Linen -----	57	ored), to clean --	69
Silks -----	57	Finger nails, to	
Two different arti-		clean -----	69
cles to be dyed -	58	Fireplace, making	
Dyeing your old		it pleasanter ----	69
white slippers --	58	Fireproof clothing-	71
Economy in the		Fireproof muslin	
home -----	59	and cotton goods	71
Efficiency in the		Fleas, to extermi-	
home -----	62	nate -----	72
Eggs, to tell when		Fleas, to trap ----	73
they are fresh --	65	Flies, to keep away	74
Enameled white		Floor that has	
furniture, to		grease spots ----	74
clean -----	65	Floor polish, to	
Enameled kitchen		make -----	74
ware, to keep		Flower symbols --	75
clean -----	66	Fly paper, to make	77
Enameled preserv-		Forcing garden	
ing kettle that		seeds -----	77
has become		Fragrant beads ---	77
burned -----	66	Frost, a bath room	
Fading, to prevent,		window to ----	78
ginghams, etc. --	66	Frost, to guard	
Fading, of pink,		against -----	79
lavender and blue		Funnel, homemade-	79
fabrics -----	67		

INDEX.

251

Furniture polish, to make -----	80	Glass stopper that is hard to remove	85
Furniture polish for automobiles and highly polished surfaces --	80	Gloves, to clean ---	86
Furniture that has white spots ----	81	Gloves, mending made easy -----	86
Furs, care of -----	81	Gloves, care of ---	86
Furs, to clean ----	82	Gold fish, care of -	87
Furs, when to put away -----	82	Gold chains, to clean -----	88
Gilt frames, to clean -----	82	Gold and silver jewelry, to clean	88
Gilt frame, to renovate -----	82	Greasy utensils, to wash -----	88
Gilt ornaments, to wash -----	83	Greenery for dining room table -----	89
Gilt writing -----	83	Guest chamber outfit -----	89
Glass, to look like crystal -----	84	Hair brushes, to keep clean -----	89
Glass, to brighten -	84	Handy mop, to make -----	90
Glass, dingy, to clean -----	84	Handy tray, to make -----	90
Glass dishes or tumblers that stick together -----	84	Hints on saving --	91
Glass dishes, not to crack, No. 1. ---	84	Hooks, when screwed in hardwood -	93
Glass dishes, not to crack, No. 2. ---	85	Ice box piped out of doors -----	93
Glassware, to sparkle like cut glass	85	Ice economy -----	93
		Immense jar with small neck, to clean -----	94

Incandescent mantle, to save ----	94	Keeping cut flowers, No. 2. -----	100
Ink stains from books, to remove	94	Keep silk and lace white, to -----	100
Ink stains on the hands, No. 1. ---	94	Kerosene lamps, odor to stop ----	101
Ink stains on the hands, No. 2. ---	95	Kerosene lamp, to give a bright light -----	101
Ink spots on marble -----	95	Kid Gloves, care of	101
Ink on silver or plated articles --	95	Kitchen floor covering -----	101
Ink on white or light colored goods	95	Kitchenette arrangement -----	102
Ink on carpets ----	96	Knife, to sharpen quickly -----	104
Ink on cloth or any absorbing substance -----	96	Knit socks, how to	105
Iron bed, to clean -	96	Knob that has come off kettle -----	106
Iron mold, to remove -----	96	Labor saving schemes -----	107
Iron rust, to remove -----	97	Lace, to keep cream colored -----	109
Iron rust, on daintiest of fabrics --	97	Lace yoke, to look like new -----	110
Iron, to make rust-proof -----	97	Lamp burners that are discolored --	110
Ivory knives, to restore natural color -----	98	Lamp is upset and oil takes fire, what to do -----	110
Keep eggs, to ----	98	Lamp wick, to put in quickly -----	111
Keeping cut flowers, No. 1. -----	98		

Laundry Suggestions.		
Blankets, how to wash them -----	112	
Bleaching clothes -	112	
Campstool, to hold clothes basket --	113	
Delicate fabric, starching -----	113	
Folding table cloth	113	
Glazed collars, to do up -----	114	
Handkerchiefs (colored), washing -	115	
Handkerchiefs, hints -----	115	
Hints for the home laundress -----	116	
Home laundering -	117	
Ideal laundry container -----	118	
Ironing day tips --	120	
Ironing during the summer months -	121	
Ironing a bias ----	121	
Ironing points to remember -----	122	
Ironing blouse with buttons on -----	122	
Iron cleaner, No. 1.	122	
Iron cleaner, No. 2.	123	
Ironing task made easier -----	123	
Irons, care of ----	123	
Iron, lingerie ribbon, to -----	124	
Iron, embroidered cases -----	124	
Iron rust on white clothes -----	124	
Irons, not to rust -	124	
Kerosene oil is good to put into the starch -----	125	
Lace and embroidery, to press ----	125	
Lace curtains that are soiled -----	125	
Laundry bags (individual) for children -----	126	
Laundry bills, to save on work aprons -----	126	
Laundering corduroy -----	126	
Laundry economy -	128	
Laundering laces --	130	
Launder tatting --	132	
Laundry time saver	132	
Launder voile ----	133	
Laundry wrinkle -	133	
Linen dress starching and ironing -	134	
Lint, to clean ----	134	
Liquid blue, when used for clothes -	134	

Mend anything before it is starched	134	Soaking lace curtains	146
Rinsing blankets and rugs on the line	135	Stretching lace curtains	147
Rinsing colored blouses	135	Washing anything that is greasy	148
Rinsing lace to give it a cream color	135	Washing coarse clothes	148
Sad irons, to retain the heat	135	Washing lace	148
Silk should not be ironed on the right side	136	Washing ratine	148
Soaking of clothes	136	Washing silk stockings	149
Stains and spots on linen	136	Washing white clothes that look slightly yellow after washing	149
Starch, how to make	137	Washing white silk stockings	149
Starching by cold starching process	138	Windy wash day	150
Starching colors	138	Wooden tubs, not to dry up	151
Starching organdie	140		
Clean cretonne curtains	141	Household Wisdom.	
Washing window curtains	142	Leaky hot water bottles, use for	152
Washing curtains by simple method	144	Leather stains, to remove	152
Curtains that have paint stains	145	Light dishes, to take out from the oven	152
Drying curtains outdoors	145	Light housekeeping	152
		Linoleum, to polish	153

INDEX.

255

Linoleum, to reno- vate -----	154	Mildew stains, to remove, No. 1. --	160
Lint and dust, to take up from the floor -----	154	Wildew stains, to remove, No. 2. --	161
Liquid glue to make for labeling on tin -----	154	Mildew stains on white clothes ---	161
Loose chamois gloves for house- work -----	155	Mirror, to polish --	161
Luster of morrocco or any other leather, to renew	155	Mold on books, to prevent -----	162
Machine oil spots, to remove from material where the colors will run -----	155	Mosquitos, to drive away -----	162
Mackintosh, to mend -----	155	Mosquitos, remedy for bites -----	162
Making a fire ----	156	Mosquitos, protec- tion from -----	163
Marble slab, uses of	157	Moth bag -----	164
Mark child's name on school books and overshoes --	159	Moths in carpet, No. 1. -----	165
Matting, care of --	159	Moths in carpet, No. 2. -----	166
Mending china and pottery -----	159	Moths, protection from -----	166
Metal lace, to brighten -----	160	Moths, to save furs from -----	166
Mildew, to remedy	160	Moths, habits and remedies -----	167
		Moth safety, cold storage for ----	172
		Mountain climbing-	174
		Musty tea pot, to clean -----	175
		Nickelplate, to clean -----	175

Nickel silver ornaments, to clean -	175	Paint, to remove from clothing --	181
Oil cloth, to clean -	175	Paint, to remove from glass, No. 1.	181
Oil cloth, washing -	175	Paint, to remove from glass, No. 2.	181
Oil cloth, to be pasted -----	176	Paint, to remove from glass, No. 3.	181
Oil painting, to clean, No. 1. ---	176	Paint, to remove odor -----	182
Oil painting, to clean, No. 2. ---	176	Paint pantry shelves -----	182
Oil stains on clothing -----	177	Paint spots on serge, to remove -	182
Old corks are useful	177	Paint your gas stove -----	183
Old cotton sheets, uses for -----	177	Panama hat, to clean -----	183
Old linen and cotton, uses for ----	177	Pans, to be soaked	183
Old oilcloth, uses for -----	178	Pans that are blackened or burned -	183
Old table linen in illness -----	178	Parasol (white), to clean -----	184
Old velvet is useful	178	Paste, to thin ----	184
Ostrich feathers, to clean -----	179	Patent leather shoes, care of ---	184
Oven cloths made of denim -----	179	Patent leather shoes, to clean --	184
Oxidized silver, to clean -----	180	Peach stains, to remove, No. 1. ---	185
Paint, to clean, No. 1. -----	180	Peach stains, to remove, No. 2. ---	185
Paint, to clean, No. 2. -----	180		

INDEX.

257

Perspiration stains, to clean -----	185	Pots and kettles should not be scraped -----	191
Pewter, to clean, No. 1. -----	186	Putty knife in the kitchen -----	191
Pewter, to clean, No. 2. -----	186	Putty (old) to re- move, No. 1. ----	191
Picture cleaning --	186	Putty (old) to re- move, No. 2. ----	192
Picture frame, to protect -----	187	Radiator brush, substitute -----	192
Picture, to hang up	187	Raincoats may be kept looking like new -----	192
Pile plush, to raise	188	Raincoats, to clean	193
Pitch and turpen- tine stains, to re- move -----	188	Range or stove, to move -----	193
Pitch and paint stains, to remove	188	Range should never be packed full of coal -----	194
Pitcher that drips -	188	Range, to dust ----	195
Plaster casts, to clean -----	189	Rattan, bamboo and basket work, to clean -----	195
Polished table that has been marred_	189	Raw linseed oil, to wipe off your stove -----	195
Polishing cut glass	189	Refrigerator care -	195
Polishing pad for shoes -----	190	Revive color, ----	196
Porcelain lined ket- tle that has gone dry -----	190	Ribbons, hair, to re- new -----	196
Postage stamps that stick togeth- er, No. 1. -----	190	Ribbons, to clean -	197
Postage stamps that stick togeth- er, No. 2. -----	191		

Roaster, double, to clean -----	197	Sewing machine cleaning -----	205
Rubber tubing, to preserve -----	198	Sewing machine tread, to make more comfortable	205
Rugs, care of -----	198	Shabby leather bags, to improve	206
Rugs, faded, to re- new -----	199	Shallow shelves for the pantry -----	206
Rugs, to brighten -	200	Shirts, to wear longer -----	206
Rugs, to keep from turning up at the ends -----	200	Shoes, more com- fortable -----	207
Rust, to remove --	200	Shrinking, to pre- vent -----	207
Rust, to remove from steel -----	201	Silk (black), to clean -----	207
Rusty black crepe, to restore -----	201	Silk, to test -----	207
Salt and alcohol, to remove grease --	201	Silk and wool, to test -----	208
School books, to clean -----	202	Silver cleaning, No. 1. -----	208
Scorch, to remove -	202	Silver cleaning, No. 2. -----	209
Scrap baskets, the best -----	203	Silver, hints on --	209
Screw that is loose	203	Silver, not to turn dark -----	209
Scuttle (Japanese) to clean -----	203	Silver polish, to make -----	210
Sediment in china and earthenware -	203	Silver, to keep bright -----	210
Set colors, to -----	204	Sink disinfectant -	210
Set delicate colors, to -----	204		
Set colors in new cotton fabrics --	205		

INDEX.

259

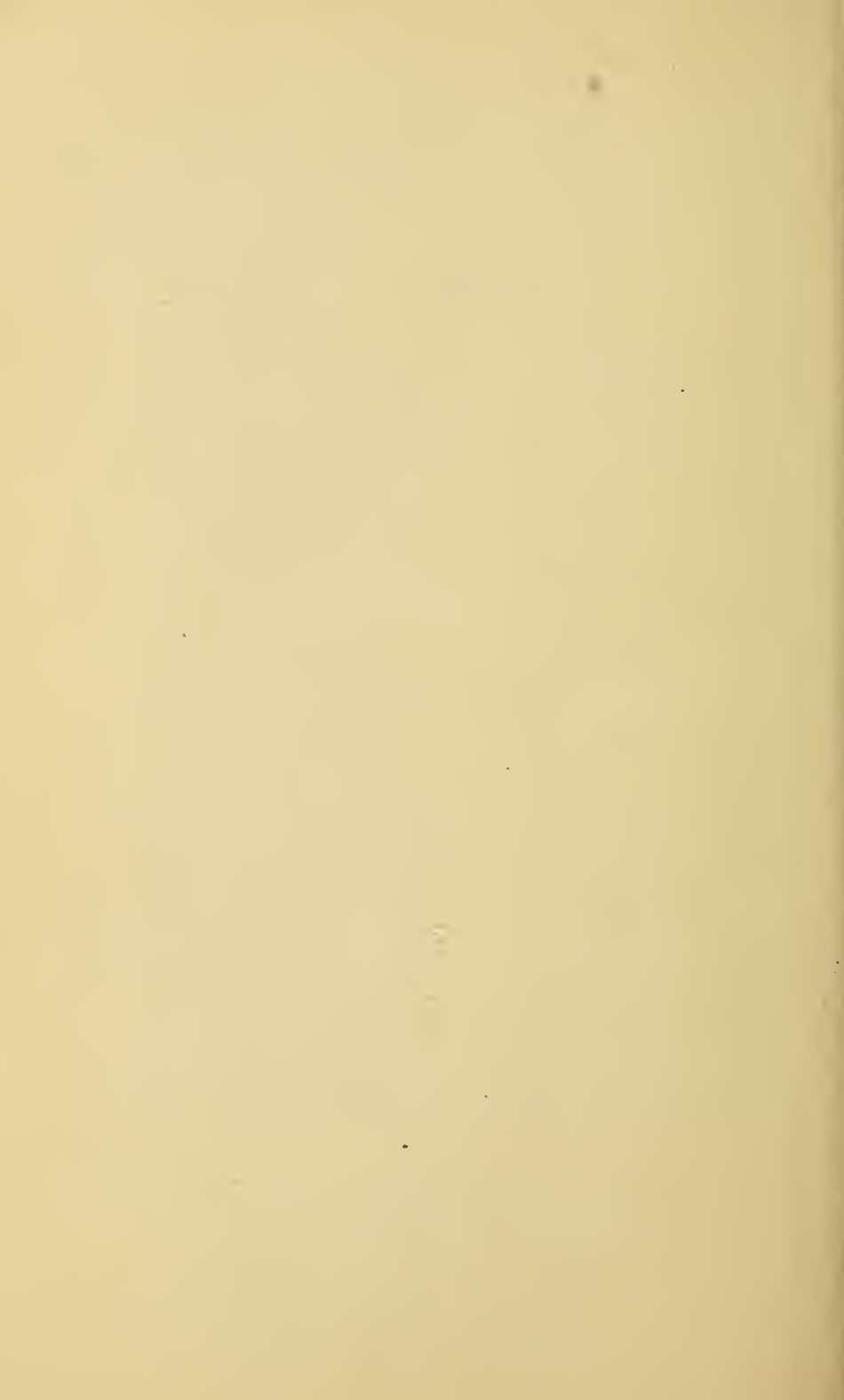
Sink, enameled, or bath tub, to clean	210	Stains (grass) on white material --	217
Sink, to clean and sweeten -----	211	Stains (grass) on linen articles ---	218
Skirts, to press ---	211	Stains (grass), ob- stinate -----	218
Smoke marks on walls and ceiling, to remove -----	211	Stains, iodine ----	218
Soap jelly, to make	211	Stains, machine oil	218
Soap making -----	212	Stains, mirror glasses -----	218
Soap odor, to pre- vent -----	213	Stains, nail, on wood -----	219
Soiled spots on white silk or sat- in, to remove ---	214	Stains, overcoat col- lar -----	219
Sponges, care of --	214	Stains resulting from potato par- ing or fruit pick- ing -----	219
Sponges, to bleach--	214	Stains, soot, to re- move -----	219
Sponging a silk dress -----	214	Stains, tablecloth and napkins ----	220
Sponging clothes -	215	Steaming velvet --	221
Spots of ice cream on a silk dress --	215	Steel knives, to clean -----	221
Spots on furniture--	215	Stopper (glass), not to stick ----	221
Spotted gloves ----	216	Stove wisdom ----	221
Stained china ----	216	Draughts and dampers -----	222
Stained garments ..	217	Heat to be sent around oven ---	223
Stains on baking dishes -----	217	Kind of fuel to use	223
Stains (chocolate) on white dresses or table linen --	217		
Stains, on flannels	217		

Rub blackboard eraser over stove daily -----	223	Tarnished gold lace and embroidery, to clean -----	228
Rusty stove, to blacken -----	224	Tar, to remove from hands ----	228
Selecting a range -	224	Tatting, to clean -	229
Secure shining re- sults -----	224	Tea and chocolate stains -----	229
Steel range with hood is most de- sirable -----	224	Tea and coffee stains -----	229
Stove, blacking and clean hands ----	225	Tea and coffee stains of long standing -----	230
Stove polish econ- omy -----	225	Tennis balls, to clean -----	230
Stove, to keep clean	225	Tinware, to clean, No. 1. -----	231
Stoves, smoked mica in -----	226	Tinware, to clean, No. 2. -----	231
Stove front can be painted -----	226	Vaseline spots, to take out -----	231
Soot will collect less	226	Vases having long necks, to clean --	231
To keep fire going -	227	Varnished furni- ture, to clean ---	232
Waste of fuel ----	227	Varnished paper, to wash -----	232
Stockings, black, not to fade ----	227	Varnished wood, to wash -----	232
Summer curtains, buying -----	228	Varnish stain on cloth, to remove--	233
Taffeta, to renovate	228		
Tam-o'-shanter, not to shrink when washed -----	228		

INDEX.

261

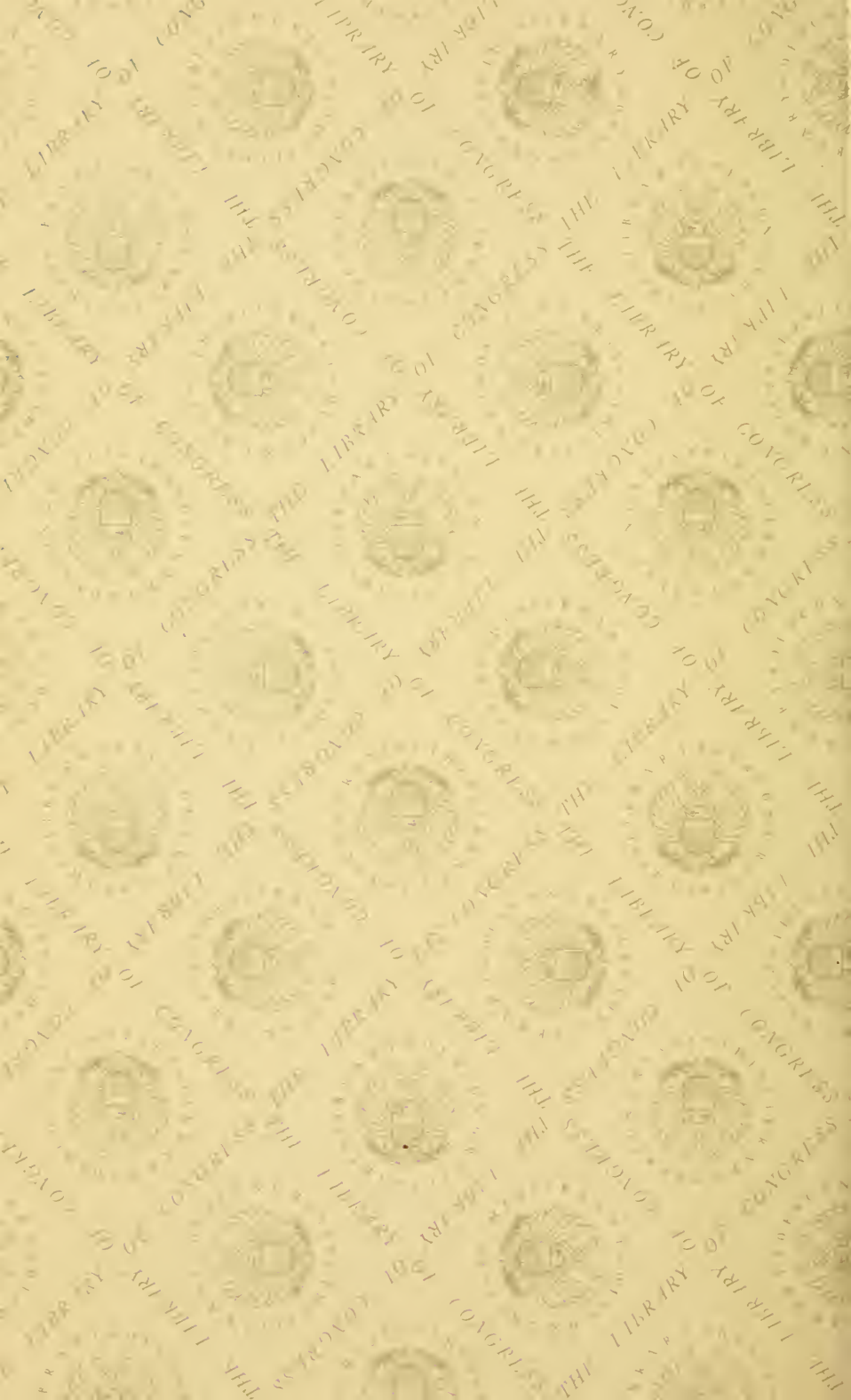
Vegetable refuse, to avoid odor when burning -----	233	Waterproof suitcase	240
Veils, care of -----	233	Whalebone, to re- new -----	240
Veils, to clean ----	234	White coque, mara- bou and ostrich feathers, to clean	240
Velvet bows, to ren- ovate -----	234	White felt hats, to clean, No. 1. ----	241
Velvet, to clean ---	235	White felt hats, to clean, No. 2. ---	242
Velvet, to freshen--	235	White gloves, to clean -----	242
Violin, to clean --	236	White paper on re- frigerator shelves	242
Wagon grease on garments -----	236	White vest, to clean	243
Wall paper, grease on -----	236	Whitewash, not to rub off -----	243
Wall paper patches	236	White woodwork, to clean -----	243
Wall paper, to clean	237	White zephyr artic- les, to clean ----	243
Wash boiler, not to rust -----	237	Windows in winter	244
Wash cloth, to make -----	237	Windows, to clean -	244
Washing floors ---	237	Window washing --	244
Washing hair, to prevent tangling--	238	Wire screens, to clean -----	245
Washing knitted gloves -----	238	Woodwork, to clean	245
Washing silk gloves	239	Wrinkles on gar- ments, to remove	245
Washing soda, not to use on china -	239	Zink kitchen table stains, to remove	246
Waste basket, to make -----	239	Zink, to brighten -	246
Waterproof apron -	240		













LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 184 181 6 •